

**Algerian cartoonist gets suspended sentence**

ALGIERS (AFP) — A political cartoonist received a three-year suspended sentence Wednesday for a drawing deemed as insulting the Algerian flag. The artist, Chawki Amari, has been in preventive detention since early this month, immediately after the cartoon ran in the newspaper La Tribune. The Algerian court sentenced the paper's publisher, Khelid Ameyar, to a one-year suspended sentence, while it acquitted the managing editor, Baya Gacemi. The prosecutor had requested 18 months for Mr. Amari, and a year each for the other two defendants. The court also lifted an order suspending the paper's publication. The prosecutor wanted it closed for two years. In the cartoon, two characters are standing on a street festooned with green and white Algerian flags. One asks if this is for July 5 Independence Day celebrations, and is told that all he is seeing is "dirty clothes."

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## King to visit Syria Saturday

AMMAN (AFP) — His Majesty King Hussein is scheduled to visit Syria Saturday for talks with President Hafez Assad on means to revive the peace process and seal reconciliation efforts between the two countries, authorised sources said.

The sources said King Hussein's visit to Syria fell within Jordanian efforts to jumpstart the Arab-Israeli peace process, stalemated since the first of a spate of terrorist operations staged in Israel last February.

The King met Mr. Assad for the first time in more than two years, on the sidelines of an emergency Arab summit held in Cairo on June 22 and 23. The two leaders had last met on May 20, 1994 five months before Jordan signed a peace treaty with Israel.

Ties between the two Arab states have soured following the peace treaty.

In Cairo, King Hussein presented Mr. Assad with a file detailing 36 aborted terrorist attempts against Jordan hatched by Damascus-based Palestinian radical

groups.

King Hussein is also scheduled to visit Saudi Arabia soon, according to official sources.

Israel's right-wing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is due in Jordan Monday for talks with King Hussein. The Kingdom will be Mr. Netanyahu's second Arab stop after Egypt since he replaced peace architect Labour leader Shimon Peres following the May 29 elections.

Mr. Assad had meanwhile said he was "determined to free" Arab lands occupied by Israel and reach a global peace agreement in the Middle East.

In a speech marking the 51st anniversary of the Syrian army, Mr. Assad said "Syria would work sincerely to achieve a just and global peace which would put an end to the occupation and restore rights."

The Syrian president, however, said "this option does not mean we renounce our principles."

"We are determined to free occupied Arab lands to achieve peace in the

region," Mr. Assad added.

He also pledged to regain the Golan Heights, which Israel seized in the 1967 Middle East war, "even if it takes a long time."

"We have a resistance and will of iron and our army remains the defender of our nation," Mr. Assad said.

Mr. Netanyahu has refused to negotiate the return of the strategic Golan plateau, but wants to continue peace negotiations with Syria by first resolving the issue of Lebanon.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Mordechai reaffirmed on Wednesday an offer to negotiate with Syria a withdrawal of Israeli troops from South Lebanon in exchange for an end to Iranian-backed Hizbollah guerrilla attacks against its northern territory.

But Syria has rejected this approach, calling for talks based on the principle of land-for-peace, including a return of the Golan.

Syria has about 35,000 troops based in Lebanon and is the main foreign power broker there.



**MU'TA GRADUATION** — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor Wednesday attended a ceremony for the graduation of a new unit of special forces and paratroopers at the military wing of Mu'ta University. The King and the Queen watched a parachuting exercise by the graduates who included Their Royal Highnesses Prince Hamzeh and Prince Hassem. They also watched free fall jumps by paratroopers of the special forces who included His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ben Al Hussein, the special forces commander. The graduates who included officers from the United Arab Emirates, later received their wings from the King at the ceremony which was attended by relatives of the graduates and senior army officers.

## Prince Hassan calls for quick development of Jordan Valley

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday said that regional efforts for the development of the Jordan Rift Valley will benefit all countries in the region, stressing the need for the concerned parties to speed up work on the preparation of development schemes for the valley.

In remarks during a meeting of the steering committee and members of the sub-committees for the development of the Jordan Rift Valley, attended by Minister of Water and Irrigation Samir Kaware, Crown Prince Hassan said most of the valley's problems, especially water problems, could be addressed through comprehensive dialogue that would help the different parties to arrive at solutions acceptable to all.

Stressing the need for implementing social, economic and tourist projects in the valley, the Crown Prince said that the time had come for providing the valley region with basic services. He also pointed to the need for the concerned authorities to give due attention to the utilisation of lands that were regained under the peace treaty with Israel in order to impress the donor nations and win their approval and contribution for these projects.

Prince Hassan said that water, energy and agricultural projects should be included in an integrated plan aimed at raising the local community's standard of living.

## Higher studies students protest tuition fee hike

By Tareq Moutami  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — About 200 students of postgraduate studies at Jordanian public universities Wednesday staged a sit-in outside Parliament in protest against a decision by the Council of Higher Education (CHE) to increase fees for higher degrees by 200 per cent and demand that Parliament intervene to rescind the decision.

Prime Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti met with the students outside the House building and promised the protesters to examine their grievances.

The CHE had recently decided to increase fees for postgraduate studies from JD15 per credit hour to JD50. The decision has drawn strong protests from the students and Parliament deputies.

Mr. Kabariti told the students that "there was no alternative to cooperation among the different parties to solve this problem and

allow the students to pursue their higher studies but in a way that would safeguard public interest."

The prime minister, however, emphasised "the need for banding all issues with rationality and objectivity" adding that democracy guarantees the people's rights to stage sit-ins and processions to express their views within the boundaries of the law and in a manner that would not infringe on the country's security and stability.

The students, who raised posters demanding that the decision to increase the tuition fees be cancelled, submitted to Lower House of Parliament Speaker Sa'd Hayel Srour a memorandum protesting the CHE's decision. Mr. Srour said that Parliament would examine the issue and would discuss it with the concerned authorities.

The students' memorandum said that "the CHE's decision gave no regard to

## Radioactive accident leads to 25 hospitalised in Iran

TEHRAN (AFP) — Around 25 people were contaminated by radioactive material following an accident at a conventional power station in northern Iran, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said Wednesday.

Hamsbahri newspaper said 50 workers, including seven engineers from Germany's Siemens Company, had been exposed to the material at the plant in the city of Rasht.

"Carelessness in handling a sensitive piece of equipment for production of gamma rays caused the incident" on July 24, it said.

The paper said 21 of those contaminated had been transferred to Tehran for "special treatment."

The IAEA said from Vienna that 25 people had been contaminated by a

machine which gives out radioactivity and is used to check whether joints in piping are secure.

IAEA spokesman David Kyd, citing Iranian contacts, told AFP the machine had been left behind in pipes and then discovered by an employee working at the power station.

Unaware of the danger, he carried it to an area where 50 people were situated, contaminating half of them, Mr. Kyd added.

"Iran has not yet informed us of the incident, which leaves us to suppose it was not too serious. If it had been, Tehran would not doubt have called for help from specialised hospitals like they have in France," Mr. Kyd said.

Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation told AFP the plant did not come under its

jurisdiction.

However, a power ministry official, Akbar Nemattollahi, acknowledged the accident, but pointed out it was a gas-generated plant not a nuclear one and sought to play down its importance.

"It is nothing serious," he said, adding only one person had been exposed, without revealing how.

Siemens issued a statement in Erlangen, Germany, denying responsibility in the mishap and saying none of its personnel involved in the construction of the power station had been affected.

Personnel of a European consortium, including six from Siemens, were working for the plant, but none of them were exposed.

## Torture leaves Palestinian detainee brain dead, Arafat orders inquiry

BETHLEHEM, West Bank (AFP) — Palestinian President Yasser Arafat on Wednesday ordered the arrest of three security agents suspected of torturing a prisoner who was left brain dead.

Three suspects were being interrogated by Palestinian security, a day after 26-year-old Mahmoud Jemayel was declared brain dead at a hospital in Ramallah on the West Bank, chief prosecutor Khaled Al Kidra told AFP.

"If it is proved that irregularities or infractions took place, we will take the necessary legal measures against the perpetrators," Mr. Kidra said.

Meanwhile Mr. Jemayel was transferred to an Israeli hospital in Jerusalem on Wednesday where his condition was described as "hopeless."

"We admitted him today in a deep coma and in a hopeless condition," a spokesman for Hadassah Hospital said.

In Bethlehem, Mr. Arafat told the Palestinian Legislative Council: "As soon as I

heard about the detained man, I ordered the three officers to go before the military prosecutor. An investigation is under way."

"We cannot tolerate the least error. Everyone must obey the law, from the president to the simple guard. We live in a state which has laws, with everything that that implies."

Mr. Kidra refused to comment on the torture allegations. "The inquiry is at an early stage. We have not yet had the results on the cause of the wounds sustained" by Mr. Jemayel.

The Land And Water Establishment (LAWE), a Palestinian human rights group based in East Jerusalem, said Tuesday that Mr. Jemayel was "pronounced clinically brain dead following a savage beating" by Palestinian police at Jneid prison in Nablus.

"The beating caused massive bleeding in the brain from a fractured skull and instigated a cardiac arrest," it said.

Other Palestinian groups strongly condemned Mr. Jemayel's treatment Wednesday.

One group, Al Haq, said "the swelling behind his left ear as well as the burns and open wounds all over his whole body are obvious proof that he was battered and burned."

"Al Haq holds the Palestinian security forces responsible for Mr. Jemayel, who was in their hands. The case shows that he was held illegally," the group said in a statement.

The prisoner had been held since December without formal charges in the Palestinian-ruled town of Jericho on the West Bank.

After staging several hunger strikes, he was transferred to Jneid prison in Nablus.

Palestinian sources said Mr. Jemayel belonged to a dissident cell in Nablus of Arafat's Fatah faction of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

## Beilin: Israel was ready to accept Palestinian state

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel's previous government was ready to accept the creation of a Palestinian state, a senior Israeli official involved in secret contacts with the Palestinians told the Associated Press on Wednesday.

In exchange, the Palestinians would have agreed to Israel's annexation of a small portion of the West Bank and dropped demands to establish their capital in East Jerusalem, said Yossi Beilin, the top policy adviser to former Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Mr. Beilin said he worked out these informal understandings in meetings last fall with Yasser Arafat's deputy, Mahmoud Abbas. At the time, Yitzhak Rabin was still prime minister.

Mr. Beilin said the two sides felt the understandings could serve as a basis for talks to be concluded over a period of several

months.

In public, both Israel and the Palestinians had been intentionally vague about their positions regarding a final peace agreement. Mr. Beilin's remarks provided the first indication to what extent the two sides were ready to compromise.

Although the understandings contradict many of the views of Israel's new right-wing prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, they could still serve as a blueprint for a peace agreement in the future, Mr. Beilin said.

"I'm not completely frustrated, because eventually this will be the solution," Mr. Beilin said. "It would be very difficult to find something that is better for both sides."

Mr. Peres and Mr. Arafat expressed some reservations about the understandings, but felt they could serve as the basis for negotiations, said Mr. Beilin and

Ibrahim Khreisbe, a senior official in Mr. Abbas' office. Mr. Khreisbe confirmed most of the details of the blueprint outlined by Mr. Beilin.

Mr. Peres and Mr. Arafat were not immediately available for comment.

Netanyahu spokesman David Bar Ilan on Wednesday dismissed the understandings as "an intellectual exercise" since neither side had formally endorsed them.

As part of the understandings, Israel was ready to agree to the creation of a demilitarised Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, with the option that the state would eventually enter a confederation with Jordan.

In the past, all Israeli governments were opposed to the establishment of such a state, although Mr. Peres had hinted in recent months he was willing to consider such an idea.

Mr. Beilin said the Palestinians also accepted Israel's demand to deploy troops along the eastern border of the Palestinian state, along the Jordan River running between the West Bank and Jordan.

In setting the final borders, Israel would annex about 10 per cent of the West Bank and thus bring about 70 per cent of the 140,000 Jewish settlers under Israeli sovereignty, Yair Hirschfeld, one of the Israeli negotiators, told the Jewish settler magazine Nekuda.

Mr. Beilin said Wednesday some of the areas of the West Bank would have been annexed by Israel, but would not give details.

Mr. Khreisbe said in exchange for the West Bank land, Israel was willing to give the Palestinians some territory near the Gaza Strip.

The Palestinian negotiator also confirmed that the

Palestinians agreed in principle that no settlements be dismantled, and that Israel would make special security arrangements for those settlers remaining under Palestinian sovereignty.

A basic solution was also found for the future of Jerusalem, the most complex issue on the table, Mr. Beilin said.

Mr. Beilin said the Palestinians dropped demands to establish their capital in East Jerusalem, which Israel captured in the 1967 Mideast war and later annexed into its capital.

Instead, the Palestinians would set up their capital in Abu Dis, a West Bank suburb of Jerusalem, Mr. Beilin said. Israel would retain sovereignty over all of Jerusalem, but the Arab neighbourhoods in East Jerusalem would be granted wideranging autonomy.

Both sides agreed that the question of sovereignty in East Jerusalem could be

raised again in future talks, Mr. Beilin said.

Mr. Khreisbe was more vague, saying the Palestinians wanted to establish their capital "in the area of" East Jerusalem, but would not say whether this could be outside the city's current boundaries.

A solution was also found for the hundreds of thousands of Palestinian refugees who fled or were driven out by Israeli troops in the 1948 and 1967 Mideast wars.

The Palestinians agreed that the refugees would not seek to return to Israel, and Israel in turn said they could resettle in the Palestinian state.

Those remaining in neighbouring Arab countries would be compensated with the aid of the international community, Mr. Beilin said.

## Investigators close to identifying cause of TWA flight's accident

EAST MORICHES, New York (AFP) — Investigators appear to be zeroing in on the cause of the TWA Flight 800 crash off the coast of New York two weeks ago, but won't say what it is until they have more evidence.

Asked if one theory stood out, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) lead investigator James Kallstrom said late Tuesday: "In my mind, yes there is."

But, he added, "I cannot share it with you."

"I imagine when we get more of the plane up here, we will know the answer," Mr. Kallstrom said.

There had been three theories: that a bomb brought down the Jumbo Jet with 230 people on board on July 17, that the Boeing 747 was hit by a missile or that a catastrophic mechanical failure caused the downing.

One of those theories may have been partially ruled out when three of the Boeing's four engines were located and examined by remote cameras, indicated Robert Francis, vice-chair-

man of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB).

Mr. Francis said after the examination that they were "not a priority issue." The USS Grapple, which arrived on the scene Tuesday, was expected to start working to try to salvage part of the front section of the plane.

One theory under consideration is that an explosion — whatever the source — occurred in the front of the aircraft.

"We are very interested in that large piece of wreckage," Mr. Francis said. But he added that because of the tangle it was difficult to know whether it was all one piece and whether it included the cockpit.

The New York Times reported on Wednesday, quoting an unidentified investigator, said that "serious concussive damage" to the aircraft's landing gear indicated a bomb blast.

"By the way it had been smashed, the bomb experts thought it had been very

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# President of Palestinian legislative council withdraws his resignation

BETHLEHEM, West Bank (AFP) — The president of the Palestinian legislative council, Ahmed Korei, withdrew his resignation Wednesday after reaching a compromise with President Yasser Arafat, council members said.

Mr. Korei, a key Palestinian negotiator of the autonomy accords with Israel, announced his resignation Tuesday after clashing with Mr. Arafat over drawing up a constitution.

He withdrew his resignation after receiving assurances from Mr. Arafat that parliament could continue debate over a draft constitution during the intermediate period of self-rule, legislative sources here said.

Mr. Arafat had tried yet again Tuesday to stop the legislative council debating a temporary constitution at a session in the West Bank town of Bethlehem.

The Palestinian leader has already twice urged the council not to start a debate over the constitution drawn up by a parliamentary committee, but to allow a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) committee to draw up an alternative.

But Mr. Arafat tried to spin a positive note on the dispute, saying: "What happened yesterday testifies to our Palestinian democracy, which we are proud of."

He also warned legislators, who saw the compromise as a victory for them, not to go too far.

"The same way that you are concerned about protecting the dignity of the council, you should also be concerned about preserving the dignity of the president," Mr. Arafat said.

Mr. Korei refrained from calling the agreement a victory.

"We will continue our work today, like a family united around the president of the authority, head of the PLO and leader of our people," said Korei, referring to Mr. Arafat.

Mr. Korei had insisted Tuesday that the issue had already been resolved two weeks ago and that Mr. Arafat had agreed to allow the council to go ahead with its debate while a parallel discussion took place within the PLO committee.

The constitution to cover the remainder of the interim period of autonomy up to 1999 is of paramount importance to the self-rule council, which can not pass legislation until it is in place.

Many of its deputies, elected in the first Palestinian general election in January, accuse Mr. Arafat of trying to



YASSER ARAFAT AND AHMED KOREI WALK IN BETHLEHEM: Palestinian President Yasser Arafat adjusts his keffiyeh as he walks hand-in-hand with Ahmed Korei to a session of the Palestinian legislative council Wednesday. Mr. Korei resumed his work as council speaker one day after he quit in a dispute with Arafat (Reuters photo)

## Arafat warns Israel after detention of Palestinian deputy

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AFP) — President Yasser Arafat warned Israel on Wednesday that its detention of a Palestinian legislative councillor was a "very dangerous incident."

Mr. Arafat told the daily Al Hayat Al Jadida that Abbas Zaki, deputy for Hebron on the Palestinian legislative council, was arrested and detained for five hours as he returned from Jordan to the West Bank for a council debate.

"Four Israeli military vehicles and a civilian car followed Abbas Zaki's car from the Allenby Bridge crossing. Ten armed Israelis stopped the car and asked him to get out," Mr. Arafat said.

"When he refused to follow him, they threw him into a minibus and drove him to Gush Etzion," a Jewish settlement on the West Bank, he added.

Mr. Arafat said he had informed European and U.S. officials about the incident, which he described as "very dangerous."

Mr. Arafat's civil affairs minister, Jamil Tarifi, lodged a protest with Israel's commander for the occupied territories, General Oren Shabor.

Mr. Tarifi said the area between the Allenby Bridge crossing and Jericho on the West Bank was under Palestinian security control. "It is forbidden to make arrests there," he told Shabor.

He also criticised Israel for failing to respect Abbas Zaki's status as deputy who "enjoys immunity, which the Israelis must respect."

Mr. Zaki himself accused Israeli police of "kidnapping" him. "It was a slight to Palestinian honour. They interrogated me for five hours," he told Al Ayyam newspaper.

As for the Israeli accusations against him, Mr. Zaki said he had the right to "express my solidarity with my family against Israel's confiscation of land."

Mr. Zaki, a member of Mr. Arafat's Fateh movement, had already been arrested and interrogated by the Israeli authorities when he crossed the Allenby Bridge to travel to Jordan on June 21.

## Palestinian rights group demand trial of Shin Bet killer

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — The Palestinian Human Rights Association called on Israel's state prosecutor Wednesday to bring a former Shin Bet agent to trial for the murder of two Palestinian captives after a 1984 bus hijacking.

"I asked the prosecutor's office and Justice Minister Ya'acov Neeman to study

this file and to bring it to court," the association's President Hader Shkirat told Israel Radio.

Ehud Yatom, who is retiring from the Shin Bet internal security service after 24 years' service, revealed in a newspaper interview last week that he cold-bloodedly killed two Palestinians on the order of his

chief, Avraham Shalom. They were captured alive after Israeli commandos stormed the bus near the Egyptian border while their two accomplices were killed on the spot.

It was not until two years later however that an official inquiry revealed that the pair had been later killed in cold blood on the orders of the then Shin Bet

chief, Avraham Shalom. The scandal shook Shin Bet but the 11 agents involved escaped unscathed with a presidential pardon. Yatom, who said he was "proud" of what he did, was promoted through the Shin Bet ranks after the scandal and has now been appointed to the board of the state refineries

## Afghan government forces clash with northern warlord

KABUL (AFP) — Fierce fighting has been raging for a week in northern Afghanistan between government troops and forces led by warlord General Abdul Rashid Dostum, officials and sources said Wednesday.

Both sides are using heavy weapons in the area, which lies about 120 kilometres southwest of Gen. Dostum's "capital" at Mazar-i-Sharif, another official said.

Independent sources from the area confirmed that fighting has been raging between the two sides for a week, with casualties on both sides and among civilians.

The fighting broke out after Mr. Masood's forces tried to extend their political influence in the area, an act which Gen. Dostum saw as provocative, government and independent sources said.

"Dostum attacked the two districts as he felt threatened by Masood's forces' attempts to expand their organisational set-ups in the north," one source told AFP.

The pockets inside Dostum's area could be used by commanders to try and lure Dostum's commanders over to the government side, which would obviously make Dostum nervous, the source added.

The clashes in Kohistanat and Sanjarak districts of Saripul province — government-held pockets within Dostum's territory — could deal a serious blow to relations between him and Kabul, which is attempting to woo the northern leader, analysts said.

Gen. Dostum's party has reportedly been holding talks with the government, which is desperately trying to broaden its base by attracting other factional leaders.

"Perhaps the government was trying to put pressure on Dostum to come into the administration by boosting its presence and possibly its forces in the north," one analyst said.

Former Mujahideen factions that fought the Soviet occupation in the 1980s and early this decade have been battling each other for power since they helped topple the last communist government in 1992.

The north of Afghanistan is largely controlled by Gen. Dostum's forces, but the area is also covered by a complex patchwork of pockets of

## Iran denies terrorism charges, points finger at U.S.

TEHRAN (AFP) — Iran on Wednesday rejected U.S. charges of sponsoring international terrorism and accused Washington itself of fostering political violence.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Mahmud Mohammadi accused the United States of "backing Israel's state terrorism in line with its policy of double standards."

On Sunday, U.S. President Bill Clinton urged the international community to slap "strong sanctions" on countries engaging in or supporting terrorism, naming Iran, Iraq, Libya and

Sudan. Mr. Clinton has also said he would sign into law a draft legislation penalising foreign companies investing in Iran's and Libya's oil and gas sectors.

The campaign is part of efforts by the United States to pressure its allies to join its unilateral embargo against Iran imposed in June 1995.

But at a one-day conference on terrorism in Paris on Tuesday, the Group of Seven industrial countries (G-7) and Russia steered clear of U.S. calls for sanctions against suspected terrorist sponsors, including

Iran. The Iranian spokesman accused Washington of "provoking insecurity" in the Middle East and "encouraging open sedition against the sovereignty of the Islamic republic."

Referring to this week's clashes between Iranian government forces and Kurdish rebels based in north Iraq, he also charged that Washington was to blame for the "insecurity in northern Iraq which affects all neighbouring countries."

Iranian troops launched an offensive against the bases of Kurdish rebels in northern Iraq on Sunday to halt cross-border attacks by the guerrillas. Iran's paramount leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei predicted Tuesday that a wave of recent terrorist acts against the United States would continue.

"The United States, which has long supported terrorism, is beginning to suffer from it. This seed, planted by the United States, is beginning to grow on its soil and it's only just beginning," he said.

A pipe bomb left two dead Saturday at the Olympic Park in Atlanta. The attack came barely two weeks after the suspicious

crash of a TWA jet which killed 230 people. Iran is angry at the United States and other Western countries for hosting members or supporters of Iran's main armed opposition group, the People's Mujahadeen, which launched a bloody campaign in the early 1980s.

The English-language newspaper Tehran Times said the United States had become a "haven for a number of terrorists coming from Third World countries."

"The notion of terrorism has to be redefined," it said, proposing a unsponsored

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 773111-19

### PROGRAMME TWO

15:03 ..... Double Dragon  
14:32 ..... Here's Lucy  
15:50 ..... Olympic Games  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:10 ..... Olympic Games  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:15 ..... Olympic Games

### PRAYER TIMES

04:17 ..... Fajr  
05:45 ..... (Sunrise) Doha  
12:42 ..... Dhuhur  
19:38 ..... 'Asr  
21:07 ..... Maghreb  
21:07 ..... 'Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church  
Sweilheh, Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church Tel.  
632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation  
Tel. 637440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terra Sancta Church Tel.  
622366  
Anglican Church Tel. 652826  
Armenian Catholic Church  
Tel. 771331  
Armenian Orthodox Church  
Tel. 775261  
St. Ephraim Church Tel.  
771751  
Amman International Church  
Tel. 652526  
Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Tel. 824328

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

German-speaking Evangelical  
Congregation Tel. 845457  
The Latter-day Saints Tel.  
654932  
Church of Nazarene Tel.  
675691  
The Evangelical Local Church  
in Amman Tel. 811295  
English-speaking  
Latin Catholics Parish Tel.  
614190

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department  
of Meteorology.  
Normal summer to relative hot  
weather conditions will prevail  
during the weekend with tempera-  
tures slightly higher than average  
and winds northerly to moderate.  
In Aqaba, it will be hot, winds  
northerly to moderate to active,  
and seas calm.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

AMMAN: 22/34  
Aqaba ..... 2841  
Deserts ..... 2038  
Jordan Valley ..... 2640  
Yesterday's high temperatures:  
Amman 34, Aqaba 42 Humidity  
readings: Amman 23 per cent,  
Aqaba 29 per cent.

Dr. Walid Al Masri ..... 675485  
Dr. Youssef Rashid ..... 896301  
Firas pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdows pharmacy ..... 778336  
Al Asena pharmacy ..... 637035  
Al Salam pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shmeisani pharmacy ..... 637660  
Nairoukh pharmacy ..... 623672  
Najib pharmacy ..... 847632

### IRBID:

Dr. Ghazi Ta'ammeh ..... 250080  
Al Quds pharmacy ..... 1-1-1

### ZARQA:

Dr. Walid Halseh ..... 982799  
Khalifeh pharmacy ..... 985417

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111  
Civil Defence Department 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue ..... 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency 199  
Rescue Police 192, 621111,  
637777  
Fire Brigade ..... 617101  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 896390  
Public Security Department 630321  
Hotel Complaints ..... 605800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage Complaints ..... 897467  
Amman Municipality Complaints ..... 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) ..... 121

Overseas Calls ..... 010230  
Central Amman Telephone Repairs ..... 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101  
Jordan Television ..... 773111  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615  
Electric Power Company ..... 636381  
RJ Flight Information 08-53200  
Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-53200

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813813/32  
Khalidi Maternity, ..... 644281/6  
Akkleh Maternity, ..... 642441/2  
Jabal Alaman Maternity 642362  
Malhas, J. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shmeisani 607071  
Shmeisani Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 845845  
Al-Muasher Hospital ..... 667227/9  
The Islamic, Abdali 666126/37  
Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 664164/6  
Italian, Al-Muhajreen ..... 777101/3  
Al-Bashir, ..... 775111/26  
Army, Marka ..... 891611/15  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 602340/50  
Amal Hospital ..... 674155  
The Arab Centre for Heart and Special Surgery ..... 855199

ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560  
Ibu Sina Hospital (09)986732  
Al Hikma Modera Hospital (09)990990  
URBID:  
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555  
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275  
Ibu Al Nafes Hospital (02)247100  
AQABA:  
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200 where it should always be verified.  
Information on other flights is supplied on phone 08 (527001 or 08)53250.

### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights  
08:20 ..... Sarina (RJ)  
09:15 ..... Dhuhuran (add) (RJ)  
10:05 ..... Riyadh (RJ)  
10:20 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
10:30 ..... New Delhi (RJ)

10:35 ..... Muscat, Dubai (RJ)  
11:50 ..... Colombo (RJ)  
17:20 ..... Moscow (RJ)  
17:30 ..... London (RJ)  
17:30 ..... Casablanca (RJ)  
17:45 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
19:00 ..... Bangkok, Calcutta (RJ)  
19:15 ..... Athens (RJ)  
20:00 ..... Abu Dhabi, Al 'Ain (RJ)  
20:25 ..... Rome (RJ)  
22:30 Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur (add) (RJ)  
01:15 ..... Larnaca (RJ)  
04:25 ..... Bahrain (RJ)

### Other Flights

06:30 ..... Tel Aviv (LY)  
13:40 ..... Doha (GF)  
14:00 ..... Riyadh (SV)  
14:40 ..... Sharjah (AH)  
20:35 ..... Cairo (MS)  
20:55 ..... Paris, Damascus (AF)  
21:10 ..... Beirut (ME)  
23:20 ..... Istanbul (TK)  
23:25 ..... London (KJ)  
23:40 ..... Amsterdam (KL)  
03:00 ..... Rome (AZ)  
Royal Wings (RW) Flights  
09:50 ..... Aqaba (RW)  
19:45 ..... Tel Aviv (RW)

### DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights  
06:35 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
07:00 ..... Moscow (RJ)  
11:15 ..... Amsterdam, New York (RJ)

11:25 ..... Abu Dhabi, Al 'Ain (RJ)  
12:15 ..... Amsterdam, Montreal, Toronto (RJ)  
12:15 ..... Rome (RJ)  
12:30 Amsterdam, Chicago (RJ)  
13:10 ..... Paris (RJ)  
13:20 ..... Athens (RJ)  
13:25 ..... London (RJ)  
20:35 ..... Larnaca (RJ)  
21:10 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
21:10 ..... Madrid (RJ)  
21:45 ..... Doha (RJ)  
22:00 ..... Tunis (add) (RJ)  
22:20 ..... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)  
22:30 Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta (RJ)  
22:30 ..... Bahrain (add) (RJ)  
01:30 ..... Jeddah (RJ)

### Other Flights

07:25 ..... Tel Aviv (LY)  
07:45 ..... Beirut, London (BA)  
08:45 ..... Beirut (ME)  
14:30 Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)  
15:30 ..... Riyadh (SV)  
15:30 ..... Algiers (AH)  
21:25 ..... Cairo (MS)  
23:55 ..... Damascus, Paris (AF)  
00:40 ..... Beirut, Amsterdam (KL)  
04:00 ..... Rome (AZ)  
06:00 ..... Istanbul (TK)  
06:40 ..... London (KJ)

### Royal Wings (RW) Flights

10:00 ..... Aqaba (RW)  
20:30 Aqaba (from Tel Aviv) (RW)

### HILJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

### Dep. Amman 8:00 a.m. every Monday

Monday

Dep. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Monday

Dep. Amman 7:30 a.m. every Sunday

Arr. Amman 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

### MARKET PRICES

Upperflower price in fils per kg

Apple ..... 700/500  
Banana ..... 600/600  
Banana (mulkhammar) ..... 520/520  
Banana (imported) ..... 800/600  
Cabbage ..... 400/300  
Carrot ..... 170/90  
Cauliflower ..... 250/160  
Cucumber (large) ..... 220/140  
Cucumber (small) ..... 350/230  
Eggplant ..... 260/120  
Garlic ..... 650/400  
Grapes ..... 420/280  
Lemon ..... 670/400  
Marrow (large) ..... 250/150  
Marrow (small) ..... 400/250  
Muhkiah ..... 110/70  
Onion (dry) ..... 150/80  
Okra ..... 750/450  
Pea ..... 650/400  
Pear ..... 750/500  
Peach ..... 750/500  
Pepper (hot) ..... 320/200  
Pepper (sweet) ..... 320/200  
Potato ..... 330/220  
String Bean ..... 680/400  
Sweet melon ..... 220/140  
Tomato ..... 120/70  
Water melon ..... 170/110



...warns Israel  
...detention of  
...tinian deputy

## Princess Basma stresses scouts' role in Kingdom

AMMAN (Petra) — HRH Princess Basma urged the quick publication of a booklet featuring the Jordanian scout movement and said practical steps are needed to move along the construction of the Jordanian Scouts and Girl Guides Society (JSGGS) building at Al Hussein Youth City.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the JSGGS, the Princess told the committee that it should maintain close cooperation with the local communities and emphasised the role of the scout movement in the Kingdom.

Princess Basma is the society's president.

At the beginning of the meeting Minister of Education Munther Masri discussed plans for activating the society's role and submitted a working paper featuring the scout movement in the country, its achievements and activities over the years.

The Jordanian scouts' participation in various



HRH Princess Basma Wednesday meets with officials of the Jordanian Scouts and Girl Guides Society (JSGGS) (Petra photo)

international scout activities was one of the topics during the talks where Hmoud Khreisat was elected the society's secretary general and Saif Dawaghreh the society's media spokesman.

Minister of Interior Awad Khleifat and representatives of the ministries of Education, Higher Education and Youth attended the meeting.

## Parliament committee condemns Israeli move to allow Jews to pray inside Haram Al Sharif

AMMAN (Petra) — An Israeli supreme court's decision allowing Jews to pray inside the Al Haram Al Sharif holy shrine in Jerusalem was Wednesday condemned in a statement by the Arab and International Affairs Committee of the Lower House of Parliament.

According to the statement, His Majesty King Hussein defended the sanctity of the shrines in Jerusalem in several

international fora and will continue his efforts to preserve the Arab character of the city.

"The committee considers the Israeli supreme court's decision as another serious link in a long chain of acts of aggression and flagrant violations against the sanctity of the holy shrines in Jerusalem", the statement said.

Al Haram Al Sharif comprises two of Islam's holiest places, Al Aqsa Mosque

and the Dome of the Rock. It stated that Israel shows its disregard to the feelings of hundreds of millions of Arabs and Muslims by acting in such a provocative manner in the holy city which holds spiritual and religious significance to Muslims around the world.

"The Arab and International Affairs committee considers the Israeli move extremely dangerous and is urging the government to adopt a strong position

against this step and appeals to several Arab and Muslim governments to adopt similar stands vis-a-vis the Israeli court's decision," the statement declared.

It also appealed to world organisations including the U.N. Security Council and the Organisation of Islamic Conference to support a just and durable peace to openly condemn Israel's latest decision on Al Haram Al Sharif.

## Free zone fire losses still to be estimated

AMMAN (J.T.) — A large fire Tuesday evening engulfed storehouses in a built up area of the Zarqa Free Zone, resulting in large material losses but no official estimates were released yet, according to Civil Defence Department (CDD) Director Theeh Maani.

Prime Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti Wednesday inspected the area and was briefed by CDD officers who supervised the fire-fighting.

The CDD fire-fighters brought the fire under control after several hours, Maj. Gen. Maani told Jordan Television Wednesday.

Maj. Gen. Maani said a CDD investigation into the cause of the fire is currently under way, no human casualties have been reported and material losses resulting from the fire are still to be estimated.

He said that an investigation committee comprising the CDD and the Public Security Department (PSD) has been set up and is currently conducting investigations into the



Minister of Education Munther Masri Wednesday meets with a visiting United Arab Emirates delegation headed by Salem Ghemai, under secretary of the UAE's Ministry of Education (Petra photo)

## Jordan offers UAE educational expertise

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Education Munther Masri Wednesday told a visiting United Arab Emirates (UAE) delegation that Jordan is willing to provide their country's schools with needed expertise.

At a meeting with Salem Ghemai, under secretary of the UAE's Ministry of Education, Dr. Masri said Jordan can provide teachers, and experts on examinations, school curricula, school textbooks, educational planning and administrative development.

He outlined the educational system in Jordan and plans for further development.

Prior to meeting Dr. Masri and Mr. Ghemai discussed prospects for educational cooperation with Ministry Secretary General Izzat Jaradat who outlined the ministry's plan to overhaul the educational system in implementation of the 1987 national educational conference's resolutions.

He maintained the secret negotiations with the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) had the backing of the government and that their results were "perfectly acceptable to Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres."

He was not sure whether Mr. Arafat had personally approved the preliminary accord but said it had the support of "the highest ranks" of the PNA.

"The Palestinians told us that it would take just one or two more months of negotiation to resolve all the points" if Mr. Peres could win the Israeli elections, Mr. Hirschfeld said.

## 2 women receive death sentence for infant murder

By Rana Hussein  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Two women were sentenced to death in absentia Wednesday by the Amman Criminal Court after being found guilty of murdering a new-born in October 1994.

The court tribunal, comprised of Judges Ismael Hmouz, Mifteh Mobeidin, and Marwan Dabbas, found Kuwitar Khalil, 50, and her daughter Muna Abdul Ruhman, 27, guilty of murdering a seven-month-old male infant in Jabal Amman.

The whereabouts of both women were unknown so they were tried in absentia, judicial sources said.

According to court papers, Ms. Ruhman had

an affair with a man, whom she alleged raped her on one of their dates.

The woman became pregnant and informed her mother and they had the child delivered by a midwife, the documents said.

On Oct. 18, 1994, the day of the incident, the prosecution charged that Ms. Khalil took the child to Al Bashir Hospital in Amman and left him under a tree. The authorities found the child dead.

Forensic examinations performed on the body indicated that he received several blows to his head, causing internal bleeding which led to his death.

"Both women plotted to get rid of this 'unwanted child,' and they both deserve the death penalty," the court said.

Both verdicts will be

reviewed by a higher court within 30 days.

Meanwhile, a 23-year-old man convicted and sentenced three years ago for the murder of a 12-year-old boy Wednesday was acquitted of the murder when the court overturned the original verdict on appeal.

The court tribunal was presided over by Judges Abdul Ruhman Tawfiq, Ismael Hmouz, and Mifteh Mobeidin.

Upon hearing their decision to acquit him of the charges of shooting and killing Abdul Halim Abu Ghanem during a quarrel in May, 1993, Basem Abu Rukbeh burst into tears.

Mr. Rukbeh, who was apprehended on May 11, 1993, was tried by a previous court tribunal and sentenced to 15 years,

and then reduced to half because the family of the victim dropped charges.

The court had relied on two witnesses who participated in the brawl and claimed that they saw Mr. Rukbeh shooting at the victim, court documents said.

When the defence attorney requested a retrial, one of the two witnesses who was recalled to testify told the court that he was paid JD 500 to give false information.

The court ordered both witnesses to stand trial on perjury, judicial sources said.

"The court found that Mr. Rukbeh did not shoot the victim, in fact he came to the scene after the youth was shot," the court said.

## Ministry begins processing university applications

AMMAN (J.T.) — Applications for national and international scholarships for undergraduate studies at the country's state universities will begin to be considered by a committee of the Ministry of Higher Education on Saturday, according to a ministry official.

Mr. Omari Wednesday said that a total of 350 scholarships in various specialisations to countries involved in cultural agreements with Jordan will be offered to the competent and qualified Jordanian students for the coming 1996-97 academic year and that the committee will interview applicants in Amman and the other governorates

between Aug. 3 and 10.

Mohammad Maqusi, head of a coordination committee for accepting students at Jordanian universities told a Radio Jordan morning programme today that at least 11,000 students will be accepted by the Kingdom's six public universities this year, noting that the application date expired Tuesday.

Dr. Maqusi, who is also vice-president for academic affairs at the University of Jordan, was quoted by Al Dustour as saying that the universities have not yet determined the grade requirement for the different faculties, and that this process is not expected to be completed before Aug.

20 when acceptances will be announced.

He told the Jordan Times the new academic year of public universities in Jordan will begin on Sept. 21.

Dr. Maqusi said the Council of Higher Education, which supervises the affairs of state universities, recently received a recommendation to increase the fees for postgraduate study.

The recommendation was made following a six-year examination of the relevant programmes in Jordan, which revealed that the universities were facing recurrent financial difficulties in meeting the costs of training the postgraduate students, Dr. Maqusi said.

## Beilin: Israel was ready to accept Palestinian state

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Beilin said he proposed to Mr. Peres last November, shortly after the assassination of Mr. Rabin, to immediately begin serious negotiations with the Palestinians on a declaration of principles which could then be presented to the Israeli voters in November 1996.

However, Mr. Peres rejected Mr. Beilin's suggestion and said formal negotiations on a final peace agreement should only begin, as scheduled, in May 1996. Mr. Peres then called early elections, and the plan — elements of which had been leaked — disappeared from the public agenda.

Mr. Beilin suggested Wednesday that Mr. Peres' Labour Party would have had a better chance in the May elections had it presented such a framework agreement to the voters, including the Palestinians' readiness to set up their capital outside Jerusalem.

Such an accord would have successfully deflated claims by Mr. Netanyahu during the campaign that Mr. Peres had agreed in principle to divide Jerusalem, Mr. Beilin said.

But close sides of Mr. Peres told AFP that the negotiations with the Palestinians did not have the government's official seal of approval.

"They were being supervised by Mr. Beilin without any authorisation, behind the back of Rabin and Peres," one of the aides said, asking not to be identified.

Mr. Beilin himself said he met Mr. Rabin on Nov. 1 to unveil the project with the Palestinians. It was to be discussed 10 days later, but a Jewish fanatic opposed to the peace process shot dead the prime minister on Nov. 4.

"The assassination changed everything," said Mr. Beilin. Palestinian negotiator Hassan Asfur said he participated in the discussions, adding: "We tried to forge a framework for negotiations on the final status (of the territories)." A single session of the "final status" negotiations was held at the start of May before the talks were suspended until after the polls.

"The essential element was that the Israelis had accepted a Palestinian state

in the West Bank and Gaza," Mr. Asfur told reporters, saying Jerusalem would have been the capital of two states with "part of the city having a special status."

But he cautioned that "no final accord had been reached."

Under the compromise plan, "west Jerusalem would be recognised as the capital of Israel, which would in turn recognise Al Quds outside the (Israeli) municipal limits as the capital of Palestine," Mr. Hirschfeld said.

The Palestinians would be allowed to fly their flag on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem's annexed old city, which would nevertheless remain under Israeli control but without formal sovereignty.

"It was important from a historical point of view that this agreement be revealed to the public," Mr. Hirschfeld said.

He maintained the secret negotiations with the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) had the backing of the government and that their results were "perfectly acceptable to Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres."

He was not sure whether Mr. Arafat had personally approved the preliminary accord but said it had the support of "the highest ranks" of the PNA.

"The Palestinians told us that it would take just one or two more months of negotiation to resolve all the points" if Mr. Peres could win the Israeli elections, Mr. Hirschfeld said.

of LAWE, visited Mr. Jemayel in Ramallah hospital and reported "multiple lacerations all over his body."

"He appears to have been branded with a hot iron instrument ... both hands and his ankles have been wounded, apparently by wire," Mr. Shkirat told the

Palestinian daily Al Ayyam. LAWE said it "cannot find words adequate to describe how horrific it sees this crime ... The armed forces of the Palestinian authority have proven themselves completely outside normal standards of conduct and capable of the grossest brutality."

## Radioactive accident leads to 25 hospitalised in Iran

(Continued from page 1)

Iran has no operational nuclear power stations. German firms had begun construction of two nuclear power plants but work was suspended after the 1979 Islamic revolution citing the sensitivity of the technology involved.

Russia is providing assistance to build a 1,000-megawatts nuclear reactor in the southern Gulf Port of Bushehr and the plants is due to be operational in five years.

Iran also possesses five research reactors, including an Argentine-designed 5,000-kilowatts experimental reactor in a research centre at Tehran University, according to IAEA.

The others are in the central city of Esfahan: One is a 30-kilowatt Chinese-made research reactor and

two mini-reactors of unspecified power.

The nuclear technology centre in Esfahan also possesses a fourth research reactor.

There is also nuclear equipment in use in a medical centre in Karaj, a suburb 40 kilometres west of the capital.

Israel and the United States accuse Iran of seeking to develop nuclear weapons and have pressured Iran's main nuclear partners — Russia and China — to withhold assistance.

Iran has steadfastly denied the accusation saying it is interested in nuclear technology for purely civilian purposes, allowing IAEA to regularly inspect its sites. Last month's accident was the first of its kind to be reported in the Islamic republic.

## Torture leaves Palestinian detainee brain dead; Arafat orders inquiry

(Continued from page 1)

Up until last year, the cell carried out a wave of shootings and killings of Palestinians it accused of immoral acts or collaborating with Israel.

The Palestinian security chief for the northern West Bank, General Saadi Al Naji, acknowledged that Mr. Jemayel's injuries were the result of a violent interrogation.

But the official argued that such a case was the exception. "We should not deduce from this that the Palestinian security and prison services resort to torture."

However, Al Haq said it had proof of other torture cases in Palestinian prisons, notably in Jericho.

- Khader Shkirat, director

of LAWE, visited Mr. Jemayel in Ramallah hospital and reported "multiple lacerations all over his body."

"He appears to have been branded with a hot iron instrument ... both hands and his ankles have been wounded, apparently by wire," Mr. Shkirat told the

Palestinian daily Al Ayyam. LAWE said it "cannot find words adequate to describe how horrific it sees this crime ... The armed forces of the Palestinian authority have proven themselves completely outside normal standards of conduct and capable of the grossest brutality."

### WHAT'S GOING ON

#### JERASH FESTIVAL

- \* Concert by Lebanese singer Najwa Karam on Thursday and Friday at the South Theatre at 8:30 p.m.
- \* Concert by the Chinese Band of Popular Folklore on Friday at 8:30 p.m.
- \* Concert by the International Family Band at the Sound and Light Theatre on Thursday at 8:30 p.m.
- \* Concert by the University of Jordan Band at the Sound and Light Theatre on Friday at 8:30 p.m.
- \* Eastern Music performance by Hassan Salameh Band at Gracia Theatre on Thursday and Friday at 8:00 p.m.
- \* Solo flute performance by artist Salwa Nazki (accompanying by plastic art works of artist Abdul Jabbar Al Janabi) at Gracia Theatre on Thursday and Friday at 9:30 p.m.
- \* Egyptian National Circus and British Five-Star Circus on Thursday and Friday at the Main Theatre at 6:30 p.m.
- \* Performances by the Jordanian Aynad Forces Musical Band, the Rozana Troupe of Popular Folklore, Al Husin

- Club Group, and Dabsha Group of Azari Folklore, and Lajp Folk Dance Troupe on Thursday and Friday at the Main Theatre at 6:30 p.m.
- \* Poetry recitals by Jordanian, Tunisian, UAE, Lebanese, and Syrian poets at Darat Al Funun, Jabal Weibdeh (6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.)

#### EXHIBITIONS

- \* Photo exhibition by Hani Hourani entitled "People and Places" at Baladna Art Gallery (Tel. 687598), until Aug. 15.
- \* Plastic (abstract) art by Ayman Gharaibeh at the Royal Cultural Centre, until Aug. 1.
- \* "Pioneers of the Fifties" — Works by Iraqi artists Ismail Sheikhly, Khalid Qasab, Suzanne Sheikhly, and Nur Behjet at Orfali Art Gallery, Umm Utheina (Tel. 826932), until Aug. 1.

#### FILM

- \* "The Color of Money" at the American Center on Thursday at 5:00 p.m.



## Regional states impose economic sanctions against Burundi

ARUSHA, Tanzania (Agencies) — Delegates to a regional summit decided Wednesday to impose economic sanctions against the tiny central African state of Burundi and condemned last Thursday's coup d'etat there by the Tutsi-dominated army, the final communiqué said.

The summit took no definitive action to revive a plan to send a regional peacekeeping force to Burundi, where tens of thousands of people have died since Tutsi soldiers assassinated the country's first Hutu president, Melchior Ndadaye, in October 1993.

It did, however, call for the application of decisions taken at a similar summit in Burundi in this northern Tanzanian town on June 25, when the regional leaders agreed to a request by the Hutu president and Tutsi prime minister then in power for military assistance.

Senior military officers from the region began drawing up plans for a peacekeeping force, but the idea

ran into fierce opposition in Burundi, where President Sylvestre Ntibunganya and Prime Minister Antoine Nduwayo were branded as traitors.

It is also opposed by strongman Pierre Buyoya, a Tutsi and former president, who overthrew Mr. Ntibunganya on July 25 in a bloodless putsch.

The one-day meeting in this northern Tanzanian town grouped leaders from Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Zaire and Cameroon (as chairman of the Organisation of African Unity).

No Burundian representatives took part, but rival delegations representing Maj. Buyoya and Mr. Ntibunganya lobbied delegations here before the summit opened.

The leaders decided to put "maximum pressure on the regime of Burundi, including the imposition of economic sanctions, in order to bring about the conditions of return to normality," the communiqué said.

It also urged the immedi-

ate opening of unconditional negotiations between all factions, including those outside the country, a reference taken to refer to Hutu guerrilla groups.

Meanwhile, Burundi's Tutsi-dominated army said Tuesday it killed 30 Hutus in central Gitega region at the weekend after a rebel attack on a coffee research station.

But Hutus in the area disputed the army's version and said soldiers killed 36 civilians after the rebel attack Saturday at the coffee plant in Gasbuba.

"It was a military intervention that followed an attack by Hutu rebels on an economic research station and 30 Hutu rebels were killed," army spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Isaac Nibizi told Reuters by telephone from Bujumbura.

On Tuesday the coffee station was still smoking and the countryside, usually crowded, was empty of civilians who were too terrified to be seen from the road.

In the surrounding hills,

large tracts of farmland were also smouldering and Hutu civilians claimed the army had mounted a scorched-earth policy in an attempt to flush out rebels.

Human rights monitors have repeatedly accused the army of routinely killing civilians in reprisals after rebel attacks and Maj. Buyoya, a Tutsi, promised after seizing power that he would restore discipline to the armed forces.

Militant Tutsi youths took to the streets of Gitega town Tuesday to show support for Maj. Buyoya, while Hutus fled into the hills to the north.

Gitega, Burundi's second town about 100 kilometres east of Bujumbura, is set on a hill in fertile country which is ideal for growing tea and coffee, the country's main export crops.

"I am not against Buyoya. I don't care who is the president, but the most important thing is that the army stops killing innocent civilians," said Tarsis Kanyabuku, a poor farmer.

"Maybe Buyoya allowed these latest killings because he is not organised yet, but he cannot allow the killings to continue," he told Reuters.

He also begged for Hutu rebels to stop using the area as a battleground as this brought army reprisals on civilians.

The hospital in the town is still home to many casualties from a massacre in Bugendaga earlier this month when over 300 Tutsis were killed. Among those in the clinic were women with severe burns and bayonet wounds to the head.

Around 150,000 people have died in ethnic fighting in the troubled central African state which followed an attempted coup against the country's first democratically elected president three years ago.



A 38-year-old woman shot through the head in Central Gitega province is lifted onto a hospital bed. Civilians in the area claim that Burundi's Tutsi dominated army killed some 30 civilians following a rebel attack on a coffee plantation (Reuters photo)

## Indonesia arrests union leader

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesia has arrested independent labour leader Mubtahir Pakpahan as part of a probe into a left-wing political group blamed for weekend riots in Jakarta, officials and trade unionists said Wednesday.

Mr. Pakpahan was taken into custody late Tuesday night, after two days of rumours in the Indonesian capital of fresh unrest following riots Saturday in which at least four people died.

There was no apparent public reaction to his arrest and Jakarta seemed mostly peaceful. Some troops still patrolled the streets but there were no reports of protests.

Officials of Mr. Pakpahan's Indonesian Labour Welfare Union (SBSI) said Mr. Pakpahan was taken into custody by officials from the attorney-general's office.

The warrant, obtained by Reuters from the SBSI, said Mr. Pakpahan was arrested as part of an investigation into the subversive activities of Budiman Sudjatniko, leader of the People's Democratic Party (PRD), and his group's members.

The maximum penalty for subversion in Indonesia is death.

Authorities were not immediately available for comment on Mr. Pakpahan's detention.

The head of the Indonesian military's socio-political division, Lieutenant-General Syarwan Hamid, told a rare briefing for foreign journalists and diplomats that the left-wing PRD was behind the weekend rioting in which 236 people were arrested.

Mr. Pakpahan was sentenced in November 1994 to three years in prison for inciting riots in the city of Medan in April that year. He was freed in May last year by the Supreme Court.

Saturday's riots were triggered by a police

raid on the headquarters of the Indonesian Democratic Party (PDI) to evict supporters of ousted PDI leader Megawati Sukarnoputri.

An angry crowd rampaged through a district near the headquarters, torching at least 10 buildings and scores of vehicles.

Gen. Hamid said the Communist threat was real in Indonesia, which went through a coup attempt in 1965 blamed on the Communists. He said the PRD used rhetoric, tactics and a party structure similar to the now-banned Communist Party of Indonesia (PKI).

"History can be repeated. If you know the story of communism (in Indonesia) it happened in 1926. It was repeated in 1948 and it also occurred in 1965. This is a very real experience for us," he said.

President Suharto banned the Indonesian Communist Party (PKI) in 1966 in one of his first acts on coming to power.

Gen. Hamid said Mr. Sudjatniko was the son of a former Communist linked to the September 1965 coup.

He said the government needed to be firm with the PRD as communism in Indonesia started from a small group in 1924 and ended with millions of members by the time of the coup attempt.

Those in contact with PRD members say they have gone underground. Gen. Hamid said he was confident the military would soon apprehend key PRD members.

Both Mr. Pakpahan and the PRD have supported Ms. Megawati, the daughter of Indonesia's late founding President Sukarno, in her battle against government-backed rebels trying to take over the PDI.

Aides to Ms. Megawati said she was still in her Jakarta residence and there were no reports of any other arrests.



An Indonesian policeman stands guard in a room Wednesday trashed by members of the government-backed faction of Indonesia Democratic Party (PDI) when they raided the party headquarters last weekend with the aid of hundreds of riot police (Reuters photo)

## At least 62 drown after ferry hits log in India

GUWAHATI, India (AFP) — At least 62 people drowned when a crowded ferry hit a log and sank overnight in a rain-swollen river in the far eastern Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh, police said Wednesday.

At least 20 passengers were missing, a police spokesman told AFP in Guwahati, the capital of the neighbouring state of Assam.

Witnesses told police that they saw 12 passengers swimming to the banks of the swirling Nadihing river after the boat capsized.

"Since there were no tickets given to passengers boarding the ferry, there could have been more than 100 people on the boat when it sank," the police spokesman said.

Other officials said the ferry was carrying more than 80 passengers and two vehicles when it sank late Tuesday in the Nadihing, one of the two dozen rivers criss-crossing Arunachal Pradesh.

The United News of India in a report from the Arunachal Pradesh capital Itanagar said the ferry sank after colliding with a log.

Indian army divers Wednesday joined a massive search operation in the swirling waters of the Nadihing, police said. They fished 10 bodies out of the water Wednesday to take to the 62 known number of fatalities so far.

It was the worst ferry disaster in six months in India's remote far east, which has experienced severe flooding from the monsoon rains.

Twelve people drowned when a smaller ferry capsized in February in Arunachal Pradesh.



Claudette Colbert, the queen of 1930's Hollywood comedies died Tuesday at her home in Barbados at age 92. Shirley Temple (left) and Claudette Colbert are shown in this file photo as they congratulate each other after they had received the 1935 awards of the Motion Picture Academy. Shirley was given a special award for her performances in a series of movies, while Claudette's performance in It Happened One Night was voted the best movie of the year (Reuters photo)

## Claudette Colbert, 1930s star of stage and screen, dies

LOS ANGELES (R) — Claudette Colbert, who died Tuesday at her home in Barbados at age 92, began her career as an actress performing in stark dramas before she went on to gain fame as the queen of 1930s comedies.

Colbert, whose dimpled, cherubic looks masked a fiercely independent mind, shied from publicity. Nonetheless, her spry sophistication and firm business dealings made her Hollywood's highest paid performer in 1938.

The film widely considered her best, It Happened One Night, earned a 1934 Academy Award not only for herself but for co-star Clark Gable and director Frank Capra.

Colbert separated herself from the studio star system of contract performers before most actors realised the system was being set up. She was known also by her love of the theatre.

"There's really nothing like that wonderful feeling of facing your audience," she said. "I never thought of movies until the 1929 crash. When that came, the money seemed to dry up on Broadway."

In her later years, movie roles became more scarce. She finally relented and appeared in a television programme in 1987, co-starring with Ann-Margret in The Two Mrs. Grenvilles.

Colbert was born Claudette Lily Chabouin in Paris in 1903. She moved with her family to the United States in 1906.

Originally intending to become a stenographer, Colbert switched to the stage after a meeting at a party with the author of a play called The Wild Westcotts. She appeared in it in 1923, and quickly graduated to lead roles.

In 1927, she made her first and only silent film, For The Love Of Mike, in which she played a young woman cheering at a boat race between Harvard and Yale colleges.

Colbert returned to the stage, and was soon recruited by Hollywood scouts for the new talking movies. In New York, Colbert starred in a number of mystery movies, playing a child kidnapper in one.

In 1930, she landed the starring role in The Big Pond because she was bilingual (the film was released in both English and French). Her co-star was Maurice Chevalier who later said of her: "She was lovely, brunette, talented and a delicious comedienne."

She began finding success in comedy with 1933's Tonight Is Ours, written by Noel Coward. Following quarrels with Paramount, she was lent to other, smaller studios, which was how she ended up making It Happened One Night.

It was a landmark film that clearly defined Colbert's civilized sexiness, as one critic put it. She played a runaway heiress pursued by a reporter (Clark Gable, who also had been "loaned" to Columbia for the picture).

Colbert filmed another epic for De Mille, Cleopatra, before returning to comedy with such hits as The Gilded Lily, with Fred MacMurray, and "she married her boss," with Melvyn Douglas.

In 1940, she turned down a then unheard of contract offer — \$200,000 a year from Paramount. She said she could make more money as a freelance performer, which she did.

Some critics considered her aloof, pointing to her refusal to work after 5 p.m. and to be photographed from the right side. She had, in fact, broken her nose twice during her youth in athletic accidents and simply wanted to hide the bump on the right side of her nose.

She found some success in the 1950s with such dramas as Three Came Home and The Secret Fury. In 1958, her appearance in the Broadway play The Marriage-Go-Round helped keep it running for 450 shows.

Work dried up soon after. In 1961, she agreed to appear in Parrish, an unsuccessful movie whose producers gave her second-billing to teenage performers unknown today.

Except for The Two Mrs. Grenvilles, for which she received glowing reviews, Colbert came out of retirement only to do The Kingfisher on Broadway in 1978 and Aren't We All? with Rex Harrison, which played in London, New York, San Francisco and Los Angeles and toured Australia in 1987.

She lived in a Manhattan apartment and a 200-year-old plantation house in Barbados. Colbert seldom granted interviews, and never appeared on Broadcast talk shows. When asked in 1987 to sum up her life, she laughingly replied: "I did this picture. Then I went swimming. And I was happily married. Who gives a damn?"

## Bangladesh army chief promises an end to military coups

DHAKA (AFP) — Bangladesh army chief Lieutenant General Mohammad Mahbubur Rahman promised an end to military coups in Bangladesh, a country whose short bloody history includes the assassinations of two leaders during military takeovers.

"No, there will never be any coup in Bangladesh... everyone (in the army) wants peace and politicians to run the country," Gen. Rahman told AFP Tuesday during an informal meeting. It was his first comment to the press since taking charge on May 20.

With a spotless military record, Gen. Rahman said the 100,000-strong army wanted to build itself into a disciplined force and concentrate on defending the country, which borders India and Burma.

Gen. Rahman, 56, came to prominence following a failed military revolt on May 20 this year. He was appointed army chief by Bangladesh President Abdur Rahman Biswas, after the president fired the previous chief for his involvement in the affair.

In the country's first military coup in 1975, Bangladesh founding father Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was killed along with most of his family members. His daughter, current Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wajed, was abroad at the time.

Former President Ziaur Rahman, husband of former prime minister and current opposition leader Khaleda Zia, was killed in a 1981 coup.

Gen. Rahman deployed more than 40,000 troops to help the caretaker government maintain peace during the June 12 general elections, the second free polls in Bangladesh since independence in 1971.

Sheikh Hasina's Awami League won the latest polls.

The general, a civil engineer who speaks Chinese, added that ensuring free and fair elections was "an acid test" for the forces.

"We have proved our neutrality and distance from politics by helping the caretaker government hold an election acceptable to all and praised by international monitors," he said.

Gen. Rahman said his

relations with Sheikh Hasina, also the defence minister, were "very good" and that the two were "trying to build a relationship of reciprocal confidence."

The premier recently made Gen. Rahman the chief of the prestigious Bangladesh Olympic Association, a step viewed here as a sign of his acceptability.

Soon after taking charge last month, Sheikh Hasina told the troops that her government would build a "well-trained and disciplined force" and any kind of "grouping or lobbying" would be suppressed.

"I will keep the armed forces above any unwanted interference and the chain of command will be in full force through the service chiefs," she said.

Gen. Rahman said the premier was working on those lines by setting up a board for promoting officers, a practice suspended for a long time, and increased the defence budget for the year to June 30, 1997.

## Bedlam in Olympic village over free shirts

ATLANTA (R) — Bedlam erupted at the Olympic village Wednesday when athletes were offered free T-shirts. Extra security guards had to be hastily summoned when athletes clambered on to the village disco stage to grab fistfuls of T-shirts being offered by a clothing company. The idea of the sponsored party was for each athlete to take a bunch of different-sized T-shirts and then swap them with another athlete of a suitable size. International Olympic Committee President Juan Antonio Samaranch got the ball rolling by swapping the first T-shirt with athletes. But after he left, the situation started to get out of hand. Athletes ended up taking whole boxes and ripping out the T-shirts. "We had a much larger turnout than expected," a company spokesman said after order was restored.

## Star TV presenter accused of attacking photographer

PARIS (AFP) — France's top TV news presenter has been accused of attacking a photographer taking secret pictures of him while on holiday, according to the daily Liberation Wednesday. Patrick Poivre D'Arvor, who anchors the main evening news on the private TF1 TV channel, left photographer Franck Skorupan in hospital with a broken nose, head injuries and multiple bruising after the attack in Greece, it said. The 30-year-old freelance photographer has lodged a formal complaint for theft and grievous bodily harm against Mr. Poivre D'Arvor and his brother Olivier, over the attack on the island of Skyros Saturday. He told Liberation that the two brothers, noticing him taking clandestine photos at their holiday home, beat him up before seizing his camera equipment and films. Mr. Poivre D'Arvor told the newspaper from Greece that the "story is completely laughable. All this to sell photos to the scandal sheets." The star journalist was suspended from appearing on television for three months earlier this year after he was convicted in a high-profile corruption case.

## Swedish cuckolds seek redress via TV teletext

STOCKHOLM (R) — Swedish adulterers could be in for a nasty surprise next time they turn on their television sets, the newspaper Aftonbladet said. They might just see their names highlighted on teletext, along with a summary of their misdeeds. For just 4.55 crowns (70 U.S. cents) a minute, cuckolded Swedes can now type messages direct on to the Thistle Or Rose page on commercial station TV4's teletext service using a touch-tone telephone.

## Ingredient X badger washes whiter — and survives

LONDON (R) — A badger was recovering at a British animal sanctuary from a scalding soak and spin inside a domestic washing machine. The animal wandered through a door cat flap into a household kitchen at Petersfield, southern England, and decided the machine was the ideal place for a nap. Housewife Min Muldoon failed to notice the creature as she loaded the washer and set the programme. But she realised it was there when she opened the door to empty the machine. "The washing was very smelly...Then I detected some movement," she said.

## EBBA meeting but says e

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EBBA meeting but says e

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# Clashes erupt after 15 die in South African stampede

TEMBISA, South Africa (R) — Fifteen rail commuters died in a station stampede Wednesday after security guards with electric cattle prods tried to prevent ticketless passengers from boarding early morning trains.

Police and hospital spokesmen said 13 people were killed at the main station in the Tembisa township northeast of Johannesburg and two more died in hospital later.

Hospital officials said 12 people were critically injured.

"Apparently it was a misunderstanding between commuters and ticket inspectors... 13 people are dead," Metro Rail area manager Michael Khumalo told local Radio 702.

Afterwards, angry crowds gathered surrounded the station and packed a pedestrian bridge over the tracks as scores of police and dozens of ambulances rushed to the station through the unpaved streets of Tembisa, one of the impoverished black townships created under white rule.

Youths burned the small red-brick ticket office and stoned police and journalists. Police repeatedly threatened the crowd and fired shots into the air. One radio report said police fired tear-gas.

The security guards were evacuated by police from the ticket office to a local police station before the rail building was torched, triggering a gas-bottle explosion that blew part of the roof off.

Mr. Khumalo said the state-owned Metro Suburban Train Service had hired private security guards to help with a crackdown on the thousands of fare-dodgers who travel free every day.

Patrick Maneli, who was at the station when the stampede broke out, told Reuters that security staff tried to make passengers board one-by-one after showing their tickets.

"They were jabbing them with those prodders and they were even hitting some people with the butts of their pump action guns."

"People didn't know where to go. They were running up and down the bridge.... People were falling off the bridge. Some of them were jumping off, forgetting that it was too high to jump. Some were jumping on other people on the platform."

Dr. Sandile Mfenyana, medical superintendent of the Tembisa Hospital, told reporters that 50 injured people were treated there Wednesday.

Five were moved by helicopter to better equipped hospitals in Pretoria and five more were moved by ambulance.

He said most of the patients had suffered "clinical and electrical shock, cuts, bruises and internal injuries... It seems there is suggestion of some form of electrical shock."

Police Inspector Kamal Shivanand confirmed that 13 people had died at the scene, apparently killed in the stampede at the height of the morning rush hour around 6:15 a.m. (0315 GMT).

He said railway guards armed with electric cattle prods prevented people from entering the platforms without tickets. The crush developed as people in front tried to pull back from the prods and people at the back tried to push through.

"It seems there was a stampede and people were trampled to death on the stairs leading to one of the trains," he said.

A school teacher who gave his name only as Simon told Radio 702 that inspectors tried to check tickets at the entrance to a footbridge over the line at Tembisa.

"There were children and adult commuters rushing for the trains. The guards were trying to scare them with these things that looked like black rods. These rods have got a bit of electricity somehow."

"They were killed by these guards while on the platform," he said.

The teacher said commuters routinely travelled without tickets on the popular township routes to Johannesburg.

Angry residents demonstrate Wednesday after 15 rail commuters died in a station stampede in this township northeast of Johannesburg. Security guards with electric cattle prods tried to prevent ticketless passengers from boarding early morning trains, provoking the stampede (Reuters photo)



Police guard a ticket office set alight by angry residents after 15 rail commuters died in a station stampede in this township northeast of Johannesburg Wednesday (Reuters photo)

## Sri Lankan army massing troops against Tamil rebels

COLOMBO (Agencies) — The Sri Lankan army is pouring troops into the north to bolster a thrust into the heart of Tamil Tiger rebel territory, military officials said Wednesday.

"The build-up is going on," said one official, who asked not to be identified. "We're strengthening our forces before we resume the advance."

He said troops were massing at the road junction town of Paranthan, captured on the first day of a new military offensive last Friday. But he said there would be no swift move from Paranthan into rebel territory on the northern mainland as the army needed to clear a maze of mines and booby traps laid by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), which would take time.

Military officials said the immediate target of the new operation was the town of Kilinochchi, just six kilometres south of Paranthan.

The rebels evacuated their wounded from Kilinochchi after it came within range of the army's big guns, they said.

The loss of the Kilinochchi hospital would create problems for the rebels in treating their casualties, many of them wounded in the human-wave attack on an army base at Mullaitivu on the northeastern coast two weeks ago, they said.

The LTTE shifted its centre of operations to Kilinochchi from the Jaffna peninsula after losing its main base in April.

Before the new military offensive, there were some 150,000 people in Kilinochchi, a town strung out along Sri Lanka's main north-south highway.

Sri Lankan aid workers and diplomats said many of these had left, including most international aid workers, as the army advanced, backed by tanks, helicopter gunships and bombers.

"Some have gone to refugee camps elsewhere on the mainland," said one aid worker.

er. "Others are scattered around the area and are on their own."

Deputy Finance Minister Gamini Lakshman Peiris told reporters Wednesday the war was hurting the economy with defence spending one-third over budget in little more than seven months of the financial year to Dec. 31.

He said people "realise that a country like Sri Lanka cannot spend 50 billion rupees in part of the year alone, 6.5 per cent of GDP... without their economic circumstances being hurt."

The government had allocated 38 billion rupees (\$690 million) for defence spending, but Mr. Peiris said the figure would reach 50 billion by the second week of August.

A military statement said Tuesday that rebel radio transmissions intercepted by the army had named 54 rebel fighters killed so far in the new offensive. The army says 17 soldiers were killed on the first day.

Some 3,000 guerrillas overran an army base at Mullaitivu on July 18, killing or capturing almost the entire garrison of more than 1,000 men.

Shortly afterwards, two bombs killed at least 57 people on a suburban commuter train in Colombo. The government has blamed the attack on the Tigers, who have denied responsibility.

Tamil guerrillas said Wednesday that thousands of Tamil civilians faced starvation after fleeing their homes in Sri Lanka's north to escape heavy shelling by the advancing military.

The LTTE said nearly 200,000 Tamils had deserted their homes following "indiscriminate" artillery attacks in and around Kilinochchi.

An LTTE statement from London said the military shelling was to avenge the loss of an entire garrison in the town of Mullaitivu in the northeast where more than 1,200 soldiers were allegedly killed by the Tigers.

## Saragossa bomb attack injures 2

SARAGOSSA, Spain (AFP) — A bomb blast rocked a French car dealership Wednesday in northern Spain, injuring two people in the latest of a wave of attacks blamed on Basque separatists.

One of those injured in the blast at the Citroen dealership, an employee at the firm, was in critical condition.

The Interior Ministry said no particular terrorist organisation could be blamed until analysis of the explosives had been carried out. However, police said they suspected the Basque separatist organisation ETA, which has previously attacked car dealers, was behind the attack.

A package which had been left in front of the dealership at Calatayud, near Saragossa, exploded as car dealer Herminio Ibanez, accompanied by his son Sergio, took it inside and tried to open it, local government officials said.

Mr. Ibanez suffered horrific intestinal injuries and his left hand was also "catastrophically" damaged, doctors said.

They said surgeons were operating on him in Calatayud hospital.

Provided his condition stabilised, he will be transferred to Saragossa Hospital later in the day.

The son suffered less serious injuries, notably to his eye, and his ear drums burst.

Also Wednesday, Basque police said petrol bombs were hurled at a Peugeot car dealership in Zamudio, near Bilbao in the Basque region, but added that no one was injured in the attack which took place at 4:00 a.m. (0200 GMT).

Six cars were burned out and the building was badly damaged, police said.

Government officials stressed that no one had been killed Wednesday's bomb attack, which distinguished it from a series of attacks against tourist targets.

Since early July, ETA has intensified its anti-government campaign, and has particularly targeted casual resorts with the aim of ruining Spain's lucrative tourism industry, which is the country's main source of hard currency.

A bomb injured 35 people when it exploded at Reus Airport near Tarragona earlier this month.



A Russian armoured personnel carrier takes position in the mountains of southern Chechnya. Russian forces have stepped up their attacks on rebel positions over the past three weeks to try to put an end to the conflict with Chechen separatists, which has dragged on for almost 20 months (Reuters photo)

## 5 Russians killed in Chechnya, planes bomb south

MOSCOW (AFP) — Five Russian soldiers were killed by an explosion in war-torn Chechnya as Russian warplanes continued to bomb suspected rebel areas in the north Caucasus republic, officials said Wednesday.

The five soldiers died and a sixth was injured when an explosive device went off on their route back to base Tuesday, Interfax quoted the military command as saying.

There were no further details, but Russian soldiers regularly hit landmines, or are ambushed with rocket-propelled grenades, as they move about in armoured personnel carriers and tanks.

Another 11 soldiers were injured and one died in separate incidents, military officials said.

Meanwhile, Russian jet planes bombed around the village of Shatoi, in the Caucasus Mountains south of Grozny, "but not on inhabited areas," the military told Interfax.

The interior minister in the Russian-installed local authorities in Chechnya, Anatoly Taranov, told ITAR-TASS news agency that there had also been fighting in the southeast of the republic and that there had been two rebel attacks on troops inside Grozny.

A spokesman for the rebels, who have been fighting for independence in a brutal war since December 1994, was quoted by Interfax as saying that planes had bombed around several southern villages and that seven civilians had died and 10 been wounded.

The spokesman added that rebels had prevented a Russian military column from pushing further into rebel territory south of Shatoi during a half-hour firefight late Tuesday.

He said that firefighters also took place near the plains town of Urus Martan, outside Grozny, "but not on inhabited areas."

The new upsurge in fighting began shortly after President Boris Yeltsin's reelection earlier this month, breaking a pre-election peace accord between the two sides. Plans for new talks have been repeatedly put off.

An estimated 40,000 people have been killed since tens of thousands of Russian troops, backed by tanks and planes, stormed Chechnya, home to less than one million people, in a bid to end a three-year bid for independence from Russia.

Meanwhile, a rebel source was quoted by Interfax as saying that the Chechens were against terrorism, but that such attacks in response to the devastation in Chechnya were inevitable.

One of the most notorious Chechen commanders, Salaman Raduyev, has claimed responsibility for a series of bomb attacks in Moscow and Russian authorities have said this shows the Chechens can not be negotiated with.

"The longer Moscow continues a policy of destruction of the republic's peaceful population, the more Raduyevs will appear, not only in Chechnya as a whole," the rebel official said.

"One cannot view the use of the whole might of a modern superpower for the destruction of a people... other than the practice of state terrorism," he said.

side Grozny and in the foothills village of Banur.

Chief rebel spokesman Movladi Udogov said that at least 15 civilians were killed Tuesday by warplanes in the Sbatoi area.

For the past two weeks, Sbatoi has been a target of Russian air and artillery attacks, as Russian forces try to flush out separatists from some of their last remaining territory.

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"One cannot view the use of the whole might of a modern superpower for the destruction of a people... other than the practice of state terrorism," he said.

## 2 missing as typhoon batters Taiwan

TAIPEI (R) — At least two people were missing, hundreds of homes were flooded by high tides and domestic airports and ports were closed Wednesday as typhoon herb bowled towards Taiwan.

By 4:00 p.m. (0800 GMT) Wednesday, the storm was 190 kilometres east-southeast of northern Taiwan and moving northwest at 23 kph (14.3 mph) towards the island, the Central Weather Bureau said.

"The typhoon has shown signs of slowing down in the past few hours," a bureau official said by telephone.

Herb, the second typhoon to hit the island in a week, is expected to make landfall at about 7:00 p.m. (1100 GMT), a weather forecaster said.

Torrential rain swept through northern and eastern Taiwan and was expected to unleash its worst onslaught on late Wednesday and early Thursday.

Herb will be 200 kilometres west of capital Taipei at 2:00 p.m. (0600 GMT) Thursday, the bureau said.

Streets were almost empty with most shops closed in Taipei after the government urged people to stay indoors.

Strong winds blew away some billboards and swept many motorcyclists to the ground.

Weather officials said the storm, packing maximum sustained winds of 191 kph (118 mph) and gusts of up to 234 kph (145 mph), was expected to cover much of the island.

People rushed to stockpile food while all financial markets and official agencies were closed.

A seven-year-old schoolboy was swept out to sea while playing on a beach in the northeastern county of Hualien, the Emergency Typhoon Rescue Centre said in a statement.

The other person missing, a 63-year-old fisherman, put to sea off southern Chiayi county Tuesday afternoon but had not returned, the centre said.

Rescue officials said they could not search for the two due to heavy seas.

In Putai, a coastal village of 5,000 people in the southern county of Chiayi, at least 200 homes were flooded by high tides.

Some lower parts of Taipei along the banks of the Tanshui River were also flooded.

Three domestic airports, including the one in the capital Taipei, were closed Wednesday but the international airport was open. Many ports, harbours and rail lines have also closed.

Most boats returned to harbour, including nearly 40 "boat hotels" used to accommodate some 2,000 Chinese fishermen hired by Taiwanese fishing boats.

The government has set up disaster centres across the island, with state radio and television repeating warnings to the public to prepare for landslides and high tides.

Herb is the second typhoon to hit Taiwan this year after typhoon Gloria killed three people last week. The storm triggered landslides in southern Taiwan and destroyed crops worth \$50 million Taiwan dollars (\$21 million).

## Red Cross says N. Korean on verge of famine

TOKYO (AFP) — The International Federation of the Red Cross representative in North Korea said Wednesday the country was on the verge of famine after renewed flooding.

In a telephone interview with Cable News Network (CNN), Geoffrey Dennis said he had seen 11 corpses of drowning victims.

The North Korean people are trying to feed themselves on just 250 grammes of cereals a day, he said.

"We are on a verge of famine," he said.

North Korea's Korean Central News Agency said Monday that new flooding has caused "heavy loss of life" and "serious damage in vast sections of the country."

Without providing precise casualty figures, the agency said transport and industry had been paralysed and that the country's Western grain growing region had suffered heavy crop losses.

Mr. Dennis said that more than 2,000 hectares (4,900 acres) of rice growing land had been flooded beyond help.

"The harvest is actually looking quite good," he said, but there was a severe shortage of food right now.

"The first priority is to get food for these people for the next three months till the harvest," he said.

The Red Cross is already helping some half a million North Koreans who were victims of extensive flooding at this time last year, in conjunction with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Food Programme.

A new series of aid shipments began July 1 and is due to continue until next March 31.

The new floods may lead to the "reinforcement of this programme," according to the UNDP representative in Pyongyang, Faruq Achikzad, in a telephone interview Wednesday from North Korea.

So far, though, the UNDP had received no request by the North Korean authorities for additional aid.



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### The suffering goes on

OF ALL the oppressed peoples on earth, the Kurds are paying the highest price for the cruelty, inconsistency and hypocrisy of the international community. Since the beginning of the century, little have changed in the lives of the Kurds whose right to self-determination continues to be denied because of the little weight they carry on the international arena compared to their persecutors. International and regional powers have used the Kurdish people to serve their own purposes, only to leave them suffer the consequences alone once these purposes are served.

The cruelest treatment of the Kurds took place in Iraq when the U.S.-led international coalition that drove Iraq out of Kuwait in 1991 used the plight of the Kurds to further discredit the Iraqi regime. Even though the situation of the Iraqi Kurds was better off than their kinsmen in the surrounding countries of Turkey and Iran, the U.S. and its allies encouraged the Iraqi Kurds to rebel and later left them in the cold to face a host of new challenges created by the new reality the Kurds tried to bring about.

The world hardly raised a finger when Turkey last year penetrated deep into northern Iraq and bombed the Kurds for days before withdrawing. The same thing happened again this week when Iran unleashed its military power against the Kurds in northern Iraq. Iran entered Iraqi territory, attacked the Kurds and then pulled back its troops after the mission was accomplished.

Iraq, which has been under siege for years, could not protect its own sovereignty because it is not allowed to use its military power. Accordingly, it was the responsibility of the United Nations and its members, mainly the United States, to act to protect both Iraq's sovereignty and the lives of the Kurds. But neither the U.N. nor the U.S. did that. Washington has its own calculations in the region and the Kurds and their national and human rights do not figure high in these calculations.

That much the Kurds, especially the Iraqi Kurds, need to understand and act upon. They need to learn not to trust Western countries that use them as a bargaining card and instead focus on trying to build their lives within the borders and the realities of Iraq, working with other Iraqis to make life more tolerable, more dignifying and more accommodating of cultural peculiarities and uniquenesses.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A WRITER for Al Ra'i daily voiced support for the minister of labour's plans aimed at setting minimum wages for workers in Jordan. It is unreasonable indeed to see workers earning JD 70 or JD 80 a month at a time when the country continues to face an upsurge in prices of almost all commodities; it is hoped that the minister will fix the minimum wage of a worker at JD 90 minimum monthly wage in view of the present high cost of living, said Sultan Al Hattah. Nothing that the existing low rate of wages has driven the Jordanian workers away and encouraged employers to employ non-Jordanian workers who accept less wages and work longer hours, the writer said some of Jordanian private businesses employ 90 per cent of their workers from among the guest workers. In the absence of regulations concerning wages of workers, the unemployment in Jordan is bound to continue to rise and the problem of poverty is bound to aggravate, he added. The demand for better pay to the workers, said the writer, should have come from the Federation of Labour Unions because they are responsible for the welfare of the workers in the country, but now that plans in this matter have come from the minister, the political parties, various workers' unions and other organisations should support his endeavours and rally to back his bid to improve the lot of the Jordanian people.

COMMENTING ON acts of terrorism around the world, a writer for Al Doustour said that when Arab and Muslim leaders condemn these acts, they look like someone who is trying to defend himself by saying he has nothing to do with such criminal behaviour. It seems that the concept of terrorism and violence has become a characteristic of Arabs and Muslims who appear weak before the other nations every time a bomb explodes somewhere in the world, said Mohammad Kawash. Why should the Arab leaders or Arab media condemn terrorist acts without differentiating between acts of resistance against occupation — which is the right of all nations, as has been the case during the Nazi occupation of Europe and the British colonial rule in America — and the legitimate resistance actions for freedom? asked the writer. By quickly condemning acts of terrorism or violence in various parts of the world, we act as if we are being accused by the world community of such criminal actions and try to defend ourselves, he continued. Referring to the recent acts of terrorism in America, the writer said the United States abounds with great numbers of extremists, racists and mad people who stop at nothing to achieve their ends.

### The View from Academia

## Bread, politics, citizen role and the shape of things to come

By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubeh

WHEN WE, in the press and media as well as in our informal discourse, talk about bread, in connection with the government's decision to rechannel bread subsidies and raise the prices of bread, we are talking about an essential commodity to the citizen, but we are also talking about other, more important issues. The matter is tied, in fact, not only to our eating and consumption habits, to some economics and to politics, but also to self-reliance, to the role of the citizen and our collective performance in the times ahead, and to the fate and future shape of the nation.

Let's talk about bread, first. It is an undeniable fact that most of our citizens, correctly or incorrectly, rely on bread (and rather heavily) as a basic component of their daily diet. I do not have a comparative study at my disposal, but I would say, on the basis of what I see with my own eyes and what I hear and read, that Jordanians (and perhaps Arabs generally) consume more bread than other fellow human beings in most (if not all) nations in today's world.

Like it or not, we are both bread eaters and bread consumers (two different things, by the way). We use bread at breakfast, at lunch, and for supper. We (most of us, at least) use it along with rice, potatoes and spaghetti — items which in many nations replace bread. Most of our mansafs are composed of a layer of bread (at bottom) and a layer of rice. Bread is served in abundance with appetisers, but when we order kebab in a restaurant, bread is brought again under the kebab and on top of it. It is not uncommon for one of us to eat two loaves of bread (large size) over a plate of bummus.

A few years ago, three friends of mine (all male, incidentally — notice that males in our society consume more bread than females) invited me to a restaurant in Los Angeles, called Spaghetti Factory. We had to wait a long time in line to get in, and when we got in, we were starving. The waitress brought us a plate containing four loaves of bread — one for each person. The four loaves (small size) disappeared in two seconds. Seeing the plate empty, the waitress brought four more and smiled at us — meaning, no doubt, that she is both impressed and surprised. In two seconds, the new four loaves disappeared just as fast. The waitress passed a third time, and this time she either ignored us or forgot to look. One of my friends called her and whispered in her ear something to the effect that if she took care of our bread, he would take care of her tip. One plate of bread after another kept coming, and we kept emptying them ravenously. I did not count the loaves but the number must have been in the neighbourhood of 20-24. One thing I am sure about, though: our table ate more bread than four or five other tables.

What is the point? Well, it is obvious first that bread is important to us, and that we rely on it heavily in our diet. What may not be so obvious, secondly, is that our reliance on bread may be somewhat exaggerated, unnecessary, and even unhealthy. How much bread do we (or should we) actually need or consume? We know that a family of six, seven or 10 consumes bread in large amounts to minimise consumption of other (more expensive) food items. A poor family of eight may buy a plate of bummus and two kilos of bread so that its members will eat enough at breakfast. A mother may divide an egg or a piece of cheese into two halves and hand each son or daughter a loaf of bread to go with it so as to fill his/her stomach. There are those who resort to bread out of the need to economise.

Having said this, however, I must emphasise that such needy families are a minority. Most have easy access to basic necessities other than bread. It would not be an unfair generalisation to say that most families in our part of the world consume more bread and other foodstuffs than is necessary. I do not think that we have to eat bread in a meal in which rice or potato is served, that there has to be a layer of bread in our mansafs, that bread has to be put under and on top of kebab, that a person has to eat two loaves of bread with a plate of bummus, that four men have to eat 20 loaves of bread with spaghetti, etc.

One can in fact argue that because bread is so inexpensive, there is a great deal of abuse of this commodity and a great deal of waste. How much bread rots in our homes and is thrown into the garbage? How much of it we dispose of at the end of a meal? How much rice and bread are

wasted at our wedding and funeral banquets? We obviously need to economise our bread consumption; and if raising the price of this commodity will help us economise, so be it.

We need to change our eating habits and pay more attention to the nutritious value of our food. "Habit" is a key word here. Some people tell you they cannot but eat bread with everything because if they do not, they feel hungry the whole day. Let them try, however, and slowly they will overcome the habit. For years now, I have made it a point not to combine bread, rice and potatoes, and it has worked easily — even though I have started my life, as everyone else in this part of the world, as a heavy bread eater and consumer.

Our families need to exercise a degree of planning, first with respect to the amount of money to be spent on the various commodities and second with respect to the kind of food to be served at each meal. There are, I am sure, poor people out there who resort to bread because they cannot afford to buy other food items, but many of the so-called poor in our country can live a better life (financially and hygienically), if they exercise some home economics. How many eggs do I actually need to buy, how much rice, how many vegetables? I am sure that many people in our society suffer more from obesity, due to overeating or to undisciplined consumption, than from malnutrition. We should not confuse poverty with ignorance of home economics.

The other major dimension to the bread controversy is political. Whether we like it or not, the bread matter has been politicised. This is, of course, to be expected. First of all, the issue is so vital and sensitive that it is only natural for it to evoke strong feelings and tensions. Second, in democracies the world over, issues are generally politicised, with the parties involved (the government included) trying to score points for themselves. To a great extent, politicisation of matters is healthy, for it is through politicisation that we hear debates of matters and arguments and counterarguments, and this is democracy in action. And it is through such debates and arguments and through the exercise of power and pressure (and the dialectical momentum that comes as a result) that intelligent decisions are made.

Naturally, the government and the opposition are engaged in a hot demonstration of political rhetoric, will and power, each trying to make a case and have things done its way. On the basis of what we see and hear, however, the scales have tipped (so far) in favour of the government. The reason is simple: in this particular case (the case of bread), as in most cases (peace, normalisation, democratisation, modernisation, etc.), the government is making the more compelling and convincing argument.

Presently, the government is saying two things, and saying them eloquently and persuasively. The first is that the hike in the prices of bread will not affect citizens in any seriously damaging way (be it those who are employed by the government and those who are not) for they will be given a monthly allowance which will make up for much of the rise in prices. In other words, the government has not raised prices and left the citizen unprotected; it has offered a reasonable alternative. The solution may not be ideal, but it is practical and reasonable, under the circumstances.

Second, and more importantly, the government's decision is not coming out of a vacuum. Over the years, food subsidies have created a serious deficit problem which has been accumulating and paralysing the economy. Most previous governments have not done anything about it. The present government could have forgotten about the matter entirely, could have buried its head in the sand and left the matter for a future government to deal with, and the deficit would have escalated dangerously. But it did not opt to do so; rather, it wishes to face the deficit problem head on and do something about it. This is compelling logic.

What is the opposition saying? As usual, not much. It is insisting, first, that bread is so important to the citizen that its subsidies should be kept untouched. (This is noble but unrealistic and politically incorrect). Second, it is ignoring the deficit problem entirely. (This is hardly acceptable).

Third, while opposing the government's decision vehemently, it is (as usual) not offering a viable alternative. (This is always its fatal weakness). While the prime minister has been citing facts, figures and statistics which no one has contested, and while he has been meeting, biding conferences and explaining matters cogently and fluently, the opposition (frankly speaking) has been boring us with highly embellished sermons and poems about the importance of bread and the needs of the poor. We expect something qualitatively different from the opposition. Their words may appeal to our emotions and secret wants, but not to our intellect.

The message that is coming out loud and clear, however, is that the country is passing through a difficult transitional period (economically, politically, socially, etc.) which we all hope will culminate in a quality of life which is categorically better than we have so far experienced. There are serious problems to deal with, and there is an obvious need for self-reliance. It has become crystal clear (and His Majesty King Hussein expressed this point lucidly and powerfully but also somewhat bitterly in his surprise visit to the conference the prime minister held a couple of weeks ago) that Jordan cannot hope to rely on assistance coming from abroad or on loans which will harm rather than benefit it.

The picture which is forming in the minds of many now is that the Indian summer the Kingdom enjoyed in the seventies and eighties is over. The fraternal and international helpers, donors and loaners are not as generous or willing to chip in as they used to. The Kingdom must fend for itself and must rely on its own resources, however limited.

Does this mean that the picture looks grim and the future is unpromising? Not necessarily. The problem with many in our part of the world (and the opposition and the man in the street are somewhat guilty of this) is that they are either idealistic in their expectations or nihilistic and pessimistic in their vision of reality. These two extreme positions are harmful. What is needed is a balance between the two, what His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan nicely calls "the art of the possible."

Let's put idealism and pessimism aside. Prince Hassan has recently said, and adopted "politics of the possible." What can Jordan do? At the "ideal" level, nothing; but at the level of the "possible" a great deal. We have humble resources, at the material as well as human levels. Let's put them to good use. Let's work with what we have and do what we possibly can — no more, no less. I view the government's decision on bread prices to lie within the realm of the politics of the possible.

The third dimension has to do with the role of the individual in the days to come. A fundamental change is required here. People need to change their attitude and their expectations. Frankly speaking, many of our citizens (as obvious from the examples above) are somewhat spoiled — have been spoiled by the honeymoon we had in the seventies and eighties (and the unnecessary abundance and waste that came along in this said period) and have been spoiled by many a previous government which taught them to be reliant on it.

But the problem may also be cultural. Just as a 20-year old student who has a robust body and a sound mind is totally reliant on his parents for his tuition, room and board, clothes and pocket money (while many like him in other cultures wash dishes and support themselves), our citizen is reliant on the government for almost everything. Many have abandoned enormous acres of arable land to work at a government establishment for JD 100 a month. We need to teach the citizen to economise and to wean himself from reliance on government. He needs to learn to be a participant, not a recipient. The country cannot depend on itself, if the citizens do not depend on themselves. This is the message strongly implied in His Majesty's surprise visit to the said Khabarti conference.

I hope that much education will be done at this point and in the future to foster in the citizen the spirit of participation, contribution, self-reliance and some toughness. Let John F. Kennedy's be our motto in the days to come: "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country."

## Fake right, go left — it works for sports, it works in politics

By Marka A. Heller

The following article is reprinted from the Jerusalem Post. The writer is senior research associate at the Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies, Tel Aviv University.

SPORTS HAVE been called good training for politics. While the implications of that are a bit disturbing, it is a fact that skills picked up on the basketball court or soccer field can be usefully applied to political life.

Take, for example, the injunction to "fake-right, go left." We know that right-wing politicians can get away with gestures and actions for which their left-wing counterparts would be pilloried.

Thus, the historians tell us that only Richard Nixon could have gone to China and only Menachem Begin could have given up the Sinai. And in previous elections some voters reconciled to the idea of concessions for peace were tantalised by the slogan "Only the Likud can" — though precisely what it was the Likud "could" was left vague enough to avoid alienating its traditional supporters.

Of course, a good fake works in either direction, and the previous government could get away with actions which would be far

more damaging to this one. Operation Grapes of Wrath, for example, produced little more than a slap on the wrist from domestic opinion, the international media and the "community of nations" because it was launched by a Labour government demonstrably committed to the peace process; had a Likud government done something even less violent, it would have been raked over the coals.

Still, the "fake left, go right" variant of political deviation is less common and far less inspiring, which is why so many observers, analysts and interested parties have invested so much effort since the elections in trying to understand "the real Bibi."

Political cryptography vacillates between two interpretations. The first, based on the Yitzhak Shamir precedent, is that the premier is a true believer determined to stick to his campaign headline themes and positions, and that in his approach to questions of Israeli flexibility, compromise and concessions in the peace process "he can, but he won't." This interpretation prevailed in the media following Netanyahu's visit to the U.S.

The second, (precedent: Menachem Begin, at least concerning Egypt) is that the premier is a master

strategist who really does intend to advance the peace process and used the campaign to build political capital on which he can draw as he makes the necessary decisions. In short, "he can, and he will."

This interpretation is gaining ground in light of the actions taken (and not taken) before and since Netanyahu's meeting with President Mubarak, including easing the closure (reimposed following last week's terror attack), the non-clo-

sure of Orient House, and the Levy-Arafat handshake on the Erez lawn.

The Hebron redeployment, albeit with some cosmetic alterations, seems all but a foregone conclusion, and the government has even prevailed upon President Weizman to pardon two Palestinian women convicted of murder so they can be released — imagine the reaction from the right if Shimon Peres had done that. There are also persistent reports of an emerging poli-

cy on settlements which implies not doing less than the previous government, but also not much more.

All these developments cause serious apprehension among the prime minister's most hardcore constituents, but as long as he uses enough politically-correct rhetoric they will not constrain him because they know they cannot mobilise anything close to a majority against him.

Even if Netanyahu only "goes left" a little bit, initial expectations among the Arabs were so low that any sign of flexibility will be welcomed as evidence that the peace process is not dead, and the opposition will have no choice but to applaud these inadequate but still positive indications of change.

This isn't to say that a decisive verdict on "the real Bibi" can already be given, only that the prime minister, despite criticism from within his own party, is pragmatic enough to have concluded that blind adherence to pre-election slogans is irresponsible and harmful.

But serious challenges lie ahead, including the possibility that disgruntled settlers will try to push the government further and faster than it wants to go: the probability that Bill Clinton will be reelected, and the certainty that permanent-status negotiations will start once the outstanding business of Oslo 2 is cleared away.

Eventually, pragmatism will not provide much guidance. Either the true believer or master strategist will have to emerge. Until then, the prime minister can prosper by standing Teddy Roosevelt's aphorism on its head and continuing to "Talk loudly and carry a small stick."





# Weekender



Jordan Times, Thursday, August 1, 1996 **A**

## Society on the Move

### It's culture and information rolled into many

Ambassador to the U.S. Fayed Torawneh is back in Jordan for a month of leisure. His wife Ruweida and three children arrived in Amman earlier, and now all are enjoying a home-stay with family and friends. The ambassador is earnest enough about his respite — he is not even sporting his cellular phone. Dr. Torawneh is expected to stay around town until Aug. 30.

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**A NEW PITCH:** Planning on an even longer stay is the Women's Studies Center (WSC). Established in 1989 to research and campaign in support of women's rights, the centre is hosting a fund-raising dinner Sunday to boost its coffers and get saddled up for the next round of general elections. WSC President Zuleikha Abu Risha likes to describe the planned soirée as a gathering of about 150 distinguished intellectuals committed to the advancement of the Jordanian woman. Senator Leila Shoraj will patronise the event. The star attraction is Syrian musician and vocalist Bashar Zarkan who has been in Jordan to participate in the Jerash Festival. At the dinner political chatter will be silenced by Mr. Zarkan's distinct adaptations of ancient oriental and Sufic poetry put to music. The event will be held in Al Zawdeh Restaurant in Ruwag Al Bolga in Fuheis. This is the first such fund-raising event for the centre which has counted on contributions and revenues from its research work as well as sponsorships of particular activities from institutions such as Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation. The funds raised will enable the centre to continue to achieve its goals of promoting women's status, conducting research and activities and heightening the centre's involvement in promoting the progress of women in the society. Plans for the future, says Ms. Abu Risha, a noted columnist and feminist, are the establishment of a documentation information centre and active participation in the 1997 parliamentary elections in fielding women candidates and supporting more candidates with a progressive, non-discriminatory agenda. The centre has joined a newly formed coalition of Jordanian women's groups including the Jordanian Women's Union headed by Asma Khader, the Arab Women's Society headed by Emily Naffo, and the Society For Productive Women headed by Suhaila Balthawan as well as individuals such as Jeanette Mufli, Haifa Bashir, former ambassador Loris Khloss and Dr. Arwa Amiri, Siham Al Qossem and Khadijeh Hobashneh in a concerted effort to make headway in the next elections. Ms. Abu Risha admits that these groups and individuals have realised, from past experience, they have to work together.

Fund (UNICEF) Area Office for Jordan, Syria and Djibouti has a new information/communication/advocacy officer. His name is Adel Abul-Rub and he is taking his new post quite seriously. A English literature graduate of Ain Shams University in Egypt, UNICEF sees his Arabic and English language skills and his earlier work in Jordan and 20 years in Qatar as major assets. Mr. Abul-Rub, 47, began his media career as a news editor and reader for Radio Jordan's English News section and also taught English at Terrasanta College. He moved to Qoror in 1974 where he became a news editor and reader for Qoror Radio plus, a year later, he began doing the same for Qoror Television. He then spent nearly 10 years as a correspondent for Reuters in Qatar. When Mr. Abul-Rub returned to Jordan he tried his hand for a short while as a factory manager, then returned to media at Jordan Television. Last year he began

working two jobs: at the Japanese embassy and at Radio Jordan's English Service (there he presented the early morning News Desk). Now at UNICEF, he succeeds Sima Bahous who is now a consultant to the World Health Organisation (WHO) through the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) and working on launching the NHF's Quality of Life Project in Yemen as the regional arm of NHF in transferring expertise on this project to the area. Dr. Bahous, whose connection to Yemen is not all work — her husband Ziad Rifai works there for the United Nations — is also busy working on the establishment of the Regional Centre for Advocacy, Training and Coordination of the Quality of Life Project in the East Mediterranean of WHO's regional schemes. Expecting a baby in September, Dr. Bahous left the task of information dissemination on one of UNICEF's priority projects to Mr. Abul-Rub's. I.e., the media promotion of World Breastfeeding Week which begins today. We wish them both much luck in all the work that lies ahead.



Sabah Fakhri at the 1996 Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts (photo by Yousef Al 'Allon)

**THE START OF SOMETHING NEW?** The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran Sunday opens a cultural and arts exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre under the patronage of Minister of Culture Ahmad Qudah. The exhibition is meant to be in essence an array of displays of Iran's rich history through its anthropology, handicrafts and folklore as well as its tourism attractions. The exhibition which coincides with no special occasion for Iran, will run through until Aug. 8. Perhaps this could be the start of the establishment of an Iranian cultural centre in Amman.

taken primarily in 1995 and 1996. The exhibition will last until Aug. 15.

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**HE SURE CAN MAKE 'EM SMILE:** If you were just beginning to conclude that Jordanians have a bad case of the blues, look again. Up in the fresh night air of Jerash, Syria's Sabah Fakhri brought nearly 4,000 Jordanians to their feet — and not over any bread price crisis either. What this famous singer can accomplish with song no government official or member of Parliament can hope to. Had ballads been handed out Sunday night, it would have been a landslide victory for Mr. Fakhri. And it did not require Nelman Morcus tents and corral-blue mansafs — only some spirited music and song with lyrics that speak of some of the joys of living. Spotted among the delirious throngs was Minister of Public Works Abdul Hadi Mojalli, who appeared more dazzled at the swaying and swooning of the audience than by the performer. Perhaps he'll suggest piped-in music at the next Cabinet meeting. Meanwhile, Jordan could do with several more doses of Sabah Fakhri to put a smile back on some of those gloomy countenances.

Jennifer Hamarneh

**SPREADING OUT:** The United Nations Children's



Iranian women visiting Umayyad Mosque in Damascus (photo by Hani Hourani)

## BOOK REVIEW

### Unravelling a concept

**Islamic Urban Studies: historical review and perspectives**  
Edited by Masashi Honeda and Toru Miura  
Kegan Paul International, London 1995, £55

The concept of the Islamic city as such derives from a model from the European academic tradition pioneered by Gustave von Grunbaum of Chicago University, from which neither European nor American scholars have broadly dissented. The Japanese editors of this remarkable cross-cultural study point out that native scholars from the regions studied here, however, "have remained on the whole indifferent to the debate about the Islamic city." Co-editor Masashi Honeda maintains that urban studies in the Islamic World need a new framework as well as methodological direction.

First published in Japanese in 1991, it was part of a gigantic research project centred on the Institute of Oriental Culture at the University of Tokyo. This new volume, though, according to the editors, should be considered the enlarged and revised English edition rather than a simple translation. It is arranged in five geographical sections: the Maghreb, Mashreq (Iraq, Syria and Egypt), Turkey, Iran and Central Asia.

This history of urban studies in the Islamic heartlands takes in books and research articles published in many languages, including, of course, Japanese, analysing the literature from many languages and with valuable bibliographies which will help and stimulate other researchers. Though Masatoshi Kisaichi admits his chapter is not a comprehensive study of the available literature he gives a stimulating overview of trends in the Maghreb. Modern studies of the area often deny there is any clear distinction between city and village. "The distinctive features of the cities in the Islamic lands," writes Kisaichi, "will gain in precision through comparisons with cities in Europe, China and Japan."

Writing on the central Islamic lands of the Mashreq,

Toru Miura explains how their great cities of Baghdad, Cairo, Damascus and Mecca are considered the prototypes of the "Islamic city." Egypt's wealth of statistical information about its cities from the 19th century on explains why historians and their scholars have produced more detailed studies than from Syria or Iraq.

In Iran, as Masashi Honeda shows, urban studies have flourished, notably in the past decade, in spite of the crisis in Iran's economy, reflected in serious pressures upon university teachers. Many detailed studies of Tehran, Isfahan and many other historic cities, their bazaars and merchants, have been published.

Writing on Turkey, Kayoko Hayashi assesses that — with the notable exception of Istanbul — urban studies hardly existed until two decades ago. Modern Turkish scholars have been deeply influenced by F. Braudel's vision of Mediterranean civilisation. Interest in the society and culture of early modern Anatolia and Ottoman society has inspired serious study of cities.

Central Asia is the least known of the five regions in the West, as in the Middle East. Here Hisao Komatsu provides a welcome guide to trends of study scholars of the former USSR. An idea of its wide scope comes from its contents, with a historical survey leading on to articles on recent trends, from architecture, city and nomads, administration and crafts, to urban dwellers and waif endowments.

The duality of the Orient and the West was a matter of firm belief among Russians as much as West Europeans. Komatsu shows great sensitivity to the peculiar ideological background of the Soviet Communist era. Since cities of Central Asia were defined as oriental feudal and medieval cities, rather than as "Islamic cities," Soviet scholars "have tended to ignore or overlook the Islamic elements" — Middle East International.

Anthony Hyman

## BOOK REVIEW

### Making its own way

**Oman And The World: The Emergence Of An Independent Foreign Policy**  
By Joseph A. Kechichian  
Rand, Santa Monica, California, 1995

Within the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Oman has gained a reputation over the years as an independent actor. Sultan Qaboos has shown that he is willing to stick to his convictions, even at the risk of alienating his Gulf and other Arab partners. This independence of mind was demonstrated in the early 1970s when he relied on British and Iranian military assistance to crush the Dhofar rebellion; in the late 1970s when he refused to break with Sadat's Egypt in the wake of Camp David; in the 1980s when Oman welcomed close military ties with the U.S. and Britain; and more recently when Oman has annoyed its GCC partners by rushing to develop ties with Israel at the same time as fostering good relations with Iran.

As Joe Kechichian, an experienced observer of the Gulf based at Rand, notes, there has been remarkably little attention paid to this unique foreign policy. His book is the first serious attempt to do so. It will stand as a useful narrative and source of documentation for some time to come. Kechichian begins the book with a summary of Oman's history and the evolution of Omani politics since Qaboos' accession to power in 1970. The remainder is taken up with thematic accounts of Oman's foreign relations with different parts of the world — the Gulf region, the West, Russia and Central Asia, the Far East, South Asia and Africa. The book concludes with a valuable appendix, 70 pages of which are taken up with English translations of key documents and reference material. Usefully, these include hor-

der agreements between Oman and several of its neighbours, including Iran, Yemen and Saudi Arabia.

In summing up Omani foreign policy since 1970 and the author identifies four phases: Consolidations find a transition, maturity and progress. The first (1970-75) involved winning the Dhofar war and ejecting Omani's international isolation. The second (back to 1980) involved improving ties with neighbours and, analysts beginning the development process at home; third (1981-85) saw the formation of the Gation for strengthening of ties with the Gulf monarchy to fight while at the same time Oman retained good show embodiments with Iran on the one side and the West on the other. The fourth phase (1984-94), says Kechichian, Sultan Qaboos emerge as a "unique political figure in the region." During the late 1980s he promote regional reconciliation and closer West. The Kuwait war vindicated many of policies, such as close ties with the West. It followed by Muscat's successful efforts border disputes with Yemen and Saudi Arabia at the same time confirming Oman's communitarian dialogue with Iran.

In all, Oman And The World is a unique, summary of Oman's foreign relations at a time when should be required reference material for the cigar shaped ed in the Gulf. Sadly, it is marred by a tinnooth field of editing and the lack of any real critical data. It is no surprise that the Omani Min metres over the Information received the book warmly. But, dive, one will the sultanate is still too young to allow its night down, beak sitive policies to be investigated and writte critically — Middle East International.

Andrew Rati

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Studies of obesity in and  
other Polynesian groups  
and American Indians  
came up with similar  
results. But whether Pol-  
ynesians put on weight  
faster than other ethnic  
groups was still not clear,  
Dr. McGarvey said.

## Western Samoans losing battle of the bulge

By Chris Peters  
Reuter

APIA, Western Samoa — Most Western Samoans, particularly women, are obese and run the risk of heart disease if current diet trends continue, according to a new study.

The study, a random survey of 550 of the islands' 165,000 inhabitants in the 25-60 age group, was carried out over the past five years by Dr. Steven McGarvey of Brown Uni-

versity in the U.S. Dr. McGarvey concluded that, on average, 76 per cent of Western Samoan women and 44 per cent of men are too much.

Although an American body mass index was used in the survey, Dr. McGarvey said he doubted any other measure would change the result.

"Wherever there is modernisation, people's adult body size increases because they are not working as hard," he said.

Dr. McGarvey blamed the shedding of traditional habits of diet and exercise, transition from plantation to factory work, and higher calorie intake for increased body weights.

But Palantina Toelupe, who heads the health education unit in Apia, said there were difficult cultural problems to overcome in the fight against obesity.

"Why? Because our women don't have a hang-up about it. You know, we are mentally comfortable

with whatever size we are, which has both positive and negative effects," Toelupe said.

"A lot of things we do are related to food ceremonies. We appreciate our food and enjoy our food and it symbolises a lot of things which are positive in our culture, upbringing and lifestyle," she said.

There is also a widely held view in Samoa that bulk is beautiful. But Toelupe said there was room for optimism with

more women becoming aware of the risks.

But, just as obesity has become a problem over the past two or three decades, it will take just as long to revert to more healthy eating practices.

Much of Samoan life revolves around the church, and religious ceremonies often involve food.

"I doubt whether many clergymen and their wives go out of their way to put on a lot of weight, but it would be rude to sit there

nibbling at your pork. It's an occupational hazard," said Reverend Tugamoa Nepo of Afega parish.

The report showed that the average weight gain for women over a period of four years was 4.5 kilograms, although 27 per cent gained more.

"The message is the trend in the four-year risk factors are not bad, but the high levels of excess weight, especially in females, and a slight increase in high blood pres-

sure, suggests caution," Dr. McGarvey said.

Government nutritionist Christine Matatunua said changing lifestyle patterns throughout the islands were affecting what Samoans were eating, with more relying on imported and processed foods.

Fried turkey tails, chicken backs and mutton flaps imported from New Zealand, plus canned fish, were among the more fattening foods Samoans had a predilection for, she said.

But she said words. Very were gradually becoming more health conscious and awaiting taking some form of exercise.



**Walt D**  
**with J**





# Actress Joan Chen to make directoral debut

By Marguerita Choy  
Reuters

SINGAPORE — Chinese actress Joan Chen, who shot to international fame in Bernardo Bertolucci's *The Last Emperor* is about to make her directoral debut.

She is planning to spend a week on the Chinese grasslands in preparation for *Whispering Steppes*, a love story which she also wrote, but does not plan to film there.

"I am going there to get a feel for the place, talk to the people and see what the original looks like to find a substitute — somewhere that is little more convenient as far as communication goes," she told Reuters in an interview.

Chen said *Whispering Steppes* was not the kind of movie likely to trouble China's strict censors, who recently banned director Chen Kaige's *Temple of Moon*, a sensual tale which boldly depicts social disorder, drug use and the underworld in Shanghai in the early part of this century.

Chen's Farewell My Concubine won the Golden Palm Award at the 1993 Cannes Film Festival.

"Lately it has been pretty strict but things change all the time there," Joan Chen said. But as far as her chosen story goes, she does not think she has to deal with the authorities.

"It is a story about peo-



Joan Chen

ple... It's not political. If anything it's more philosophical and it's a story I do not have to film in China, so I do not have to deal with it."

No location has yet been chosen although Australia, the Andes, Peru or any piece of grassland on which she can plant a tent are possibilities.

Joan Chen is adapting a love story from award-winning writer Yan Geling's novella *Tan Yu*, about a 16-

year-old girl sent to the countryside for re-education during the Cultural Revolution.

She meets a charismatic young soldier whilst experiencing a tense relationship with a withdrawn middle-aged racehorse farmer, played by Jiang Wen, who played in *Red Sorghum*.

"It meditates on love and sex. I wish to achieve the same sort of goals that Milan Kundera achieves in his novels in my narratives."

To think of the possibility of love without sex, to fall in love in the most sublime way — I want to discuss that in the film."

Chen said she chose the story for her directoral debut as she felt compelled to deal with her feelings and connections with China "the first 20 years of one's life is something we must deal with when we start doing our own creative work. I am Chinese and I grew up there and the strongest emotional impact and most important education I received, that is, my most impressionable years were spent there."

Having left Shanghai in her early twenties, Chen has settled and married in San Francisco. But she returns to Shanghai four times a year.

"Shanghai has always been special because it was the city I was brought up in and I have this love-hate relationship with it. There is a Shanghai complex in me."

"Shanghai has an entrepreneurial spirit and Shanghai people love life — there is a materialistic element but you see the enthusiasm towards something, be it material or spiritual. But it is nice to see people living with such gusto."

After *The Last Emperor* and *Oliver Stone's Heaven and Earth*, Chen also found a following in Asia with films such as Hong Kong director Stanley Kwan's *Red Rose White Rose*.

Now she has decided to direct because, she said, she missed seeing the kind of films she wanted to see.

"I have just turned 35... If I don't do it now I will retire soon, Chen said. "To make a change is a scary thing. I feel comfortable acting, and to step out of the comfort zone and to create something new for yourself is exciting and scary."

But Chen said she would not use any of her previous directors as role model.

"Working with Bernardo was a very good experience — his sense of poetry, his love for films... He is just such an artist. I love Oliver's demanding habit that he always gets more out of you."

"But in creating, there is no role model. I see good movies and what affects me and I want to learn every good part of that movie."

Chen saw *Temple of Moon* in Singapore and said she thought it was beautifully filmed.

But Chen refused to compare herself to the movie's star, acclaimed Chinese actress Gong Li, who is also the new face of French cosmetics house L'Oréal in China and South East Asia.

"You cannot compare human beings. We are two different human beings. She has a lot of qualities that I do not have and I have a lot of qualities that she does not."



Joan Chen in the film *The Last Emperor*

Chen's debut film has a budget of \$1 million, about half of which has already been raised, mainly by friends, and is due to start production in August.

## Walt Disney forms alliance with Japan's top animator

By Miwa Suzuki  
Agence France Presse

TOKYO — Walt Disney Co. has announced an alliance with Japanese animation distributor Tokuma Shoten Publishing Co. Ltd.

The deal comes almost two years after Disney was accused of plagiarising the late Japanese animation master Osamu Tezuka in his animated movie *The Lion King*.

It includes the global video rights for eight feature-length animated movies already produced by acclaimed Japanese animator Hayao Miyazaki, whose production company studio Ghibli Co. Ltd. is affiliated with Tokuma Shoten.

The alliance also covers world distribution of *Princess Mononoke*, a new feature by Miyazaki to be released in July next year, plus several movies from Daiei Co. Ltd., the fourth-largest film production company in Japan.

Daiei has also been involved in Miyazaki productions including *Laputa, Castle in the Sky* (1986), *My Neighbour Totoro* (1988), *Kiki's Delivery Service* (1989) and *Porco Rosso* (1992).

"Miyazaki's films fea-

ture the same kind of quality family entertainment that Disney has always strived to produce," Walt Disney Studios Chairman Joe Roth told a news conference in Tokyo via satellite from Los Angeles.

Mr. Roth said Disney's "extensive and effective distribution system will make it possible for his brilliant work to be received by tens of millions of people."

Robyn Miller, senior vice president of Walt Disney sales, marketing and distribution unit Buena Vista Home Entertainment, said there was "tremendous potential" for Miyazaki's films in the international marketplace.

"People are looking for quality family animation," she said.

Under the deal, Tokuma President Yasuyoshi Tokuma said that Walt Disney would hold theatrical distribution rights for *Princess Mononoke* in Brazil, France, Italy and other markets as well as the United States while Tokuma would hold the theatrical rights for 14 markets in Asia including Japan.

Walt Disney will meanwhile acquire the worldwide video distribution

rights for all of Miyazaki's films, Tokuma said.

In addition, he said the recent Japanese box-office hit *Shall We Dance?* would be distributed worldwide by Walt Disney next year, along with the new monster movie *Gamera II* and the yet-to-be-made *Opium Wars* which is due to be released in June next year before Hong Kong reverts to Chinese rule.

Daiei, which is involved with all three Japanese movies, has been trying to get Britain's Princess Diana to play Queen Victoria in *Opium Wars*, which recounts the stormy period of Sino-British ties in the 19th century.

The distribution of Miyazaki's animated films abroad has until now been largely limited to markets such as Hong Kong and Taiwan, although some have made it to larger markets such as the United States and France.

"This is only the first stage of our broad alliance with Walt Disney. It will expand into magazines, publishing, recordings, character goods and many other fields at the second stage," the Tokuma president said.

Born in 1941, Miyazaki

initially worked for Toei Animation Co. Ltd. before becoming an independent producer in 1978. He is currently considered the foremost animator in Japan following the death of Tezuka in 1989.

Tezuka came to prominence with comic-strip novels and science-fiction stories in the 1950s and made animated versions of his works for television and the movies in the 1960s, including *Astro Boy* and *Kimba the White Lion*.

Japanese fans of the late animator protested against Walt Disney in 1994 following the release of *The Lion King*, a highly-successful animated movie with major similarities to *Kimba*, first seen in the United States in 1966.

Both stories are about an orphaned lion prince who loses his crown to a wicked adult lion before reclaiming his throne.

Moreover, the Disney lion was called Simba, seen as a further affront to Tezuka's army of Japanese fans.

## Manila television 'soap' unites divided nation

By Ruben Alabastro  
Reuters

MANILA — It has caused motorists to abandon their cars in the middle of the street, baffled psychologists, and provoked at least one murder.

Although it may have caused some mayhem, a low-budget Mexican soap opera called *Mari Mar* has managed to unite Filipinos who usually disagree on almost everything.

Every evening from Monday to Friday, millions of Filipinos drop their daily concerns about crime and poverty to escape into a world where a poor village lass turns into a ravishing, avenging woman.

"Filipinos can easily identify with Mari Mar's struggle to change her station in life," said Patrick Flores, who teaches art studies at the state-run University of the Philippines.

"The theme of oppression and redemption always fascinates us because of our colonial past."

The plot is almost as outlandish as recent history in the Philippines, where the wife of an ousted and disgraced dictator sits in the house of representatives and an ex-army officer who attempted to overthrow a legitimate government is a senator.

Mari Mar, played by Mexican actress-singer Thalía, falls in love with a rich man's son, marries him but falls foul of his vicious stepmother, who schemes to get her jailed as a thief.

Poor girl and rich son separate and when they meet again, she is a changed woman, wealthy and seeking retribution.

A profoundly philosophical dog whose thoughts are audible to the audience provides a running commentary on the foibles of the cast's human members.

Soon after its debut on Manila Television in March, the serial zoomed to the top of the ratings, displacing even TV Patrol, long one of the country's top newscasts.

Dubbed into the main local dialect, Mari Mar has changed Filipino lives. Housewife Fe Ilona used to worry about thugs in the streets and collected teenage daughter Joy from school. Now Joy walks home alone while her mother watches TV.

"I drop whatever it is I am doing and run to the set when it's Mari Mar's time," Mrs. Ilona said.

Husbands have started coming home early and passengers on buses equipped with TV sets often miss their stops, a newspaper said.

In Central Bacolod, motorists stuck in traffic abandoned their cars and raced to a nearby broadcasting station to see the show. Visayan Daily Star Editor in Chief Ninfa Leonardia said.

In Manila, a man paid with his life for refusing to switch channels. His drunken cousin, who wanted to watch another show, stabbed the man to death.

Public employees have drawn official warnings for sneaking off work to watch

lunchtime repeats of the previous night's episode. First offenders face a reprimand but repeaters could be sacked. Civil Service Commissioner Thelma Gaminde told Reuters.

"It's better to warn them now because there is apparently a mass hysteria over the show," Ms. Gaminde said.

Some social experts traced the "Mari Mar phenomenon" to the natural love of Filipinos for the underdog.

Others attribute it to the country's colonial experience, which is similar to Mexico's. Both countries were once linked by a thriving galleon trade.

Colonised by Spain and by America, Filipinos find a mirror of their lives in heroes who project docility and then fight back to triumph in the end, analysts said.

"The aspiration for struggle, the capacity to fight back somehow embodies our own condition," Flores said.

## No frills needed to enjoy Marshalls' 'River Jordan'

By Giff Johnson  
Agence France Presse

MAJURO — When the tide is full and going down the force of the current is so strong in a turquoise strip that locals call it the River Jordan because it is the closest thing to a river they have.

A prized swimming location, it separates two small but lush tropical atolls in the Marshall Islands.

The sandy sides are steeply inclined, sculpted by the swift movement of water. At highest tide the water is chest deep and requires a strong swimmer to cross the 12 metres (40 feet) between sandy beaches, but at low tide the water is as warm and peaceful as in a bathtub.

The closest inhabited island, Jang, is about two and a half hours walk across the exposed coral reef at low tide. It is part of Maloelap Atoll, one of 29 atolls in the watery Marshalls, an oval shaped necklace of low lying Coral Islands, about 75 in all.

The river separating Talo and Enemejkan acts as a funnel for the north-easterly trades and sports billowing coconut trees. It makes Enemejkan a pleasant island for jolling about.

This is unusual for islands where searing sun, just eight degrees north of the equator, is a year round proposition. It is unbeatable as a spot for visitors looking for an adventurous, outdoor kind of trip — oo frills but spectacular unspoilt beaches and water so clear one could be excused for thinking it is potable.

The word paradise has become too overused to adequately describe the peaceful beauty of the late afternoon sun making its daily dive for the horizon, its orange, gold and purple fingers colouring puffs of clouds. For a few minutes each evening the sky is bathed in a kaleidoscope of breathtaking colours that would make a perfect postcard.

Sunsets are not the only time to pause on an atoll. There is dead low tide in the heat of the day when the clear shaped strip of lagoon-front beach becomes a football field of white sand.

In the morning birds invariably hover 30 metres over the lagoon near shore and then, in a kamikaze dive, one will break off from the flock and swoop straight down, beak opened to swallow an unsuspecting fish.

The bird hits the lagoon surface with a splash, waddles momentarily as it chomps on the fish, shakes water from its wings and flies off in search of another.

This is the best the Marshalls has to offer. Tourism, as the term is defined in places like Hawaii and Guam, is yet to make its way into this country.

Recent statistics show about 7,000 tourists come every year. While infrastructure is negligible in the outer islands, they are still the most interesting to visit.

Trips can be arranged through friends, local leaders and hotels in the capital, Majuro, a short distance away by commuter airlines operated by Air Marshall Islands. Very friendly islanders, spectacular vistas and lagoons, unpeopled beaches and the freshest seafood imaginable awaits those who take the trouble.

Maloelap and several other atolls were major Japanese bases during World War II, so a good deal of war relics — bunkers, machine guns, pill boxes, sunken ships and downed zeroes — dot the islands, making for interesting diversions.

Outsiders look at an island for its beauty, Marshallese for its use. To Marshallese, who know every one of the 60 plus islands in their lagoon by its name (to say nothing of the names and owners of the dozens of land parcels on each island), each island has a special use or story. They are used for making copra, hunting lobster, certain kinds of fishing, or is the seat of a paramount chief or special burial grounds.



A scene from *The Lion King*



# AIDS infection stabilising in U.S. but at high level

By Joanne Kenen  
Reuter

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — The rate of AIDS infection appears to be stabilising in the United States but "at an unacceptably high level," with about one in 300 Americans carrying the lethal virus, according to Centers for Disease Control (CDC) figures.

Some groups are disproportionately hard hit. One in 50 black men — a stunning two per cent of that population — is believed to be infected, compared to about one in 3,000 white women, the CDC study found.

Between 650,000 and 900,000 Americans were infected with HIV, the virus which causes AIDS, as of 1992. That is up from the estimates of 400,000 to 450,000 in 1984.

More than 325,000 U.S. residents had died of AIDS through 1994, according to

official statistics. With roughly 50,000 more dying each year, that brings the death toll in the United States alone painfully close to the 405,000 U.S. military deaths in all of World War II.

"The number of Americans living with HIV increased significantly during the mid-to late-1980s and now may have stabilised, but at an unacceptably high level," said John Karon, at the CDC division of HIV/CDC Prevention.

Mr. Karon and his colleagues estimated that about half the HIV-infected people were gay or bisexual men, and about one-fourth were injecting drug users. About 15 per cent became infected by heterosexual contact — often through a partner who injected drugs.

"Fortunately the number of Americans living with HIV no longer appears to be increasing rapidly, and

may even be declining in some groups," he said.

"As a nation, we have made significant progress in slowing the spread of the epidemic," Dr. David Satcher, director of the CDC, told a separate briefing in advance of the 11th International Conference on AIDS here in Vancouver.

But with about 60,000 HIV-infected people developing AIDS each year, and 40,000 more becoming infected with the virus, "there is clearly more to be done," Dr. Satcher added.

Rougher versions of these statistics had been made public earlier, but the new report gives a closer look at the trends and at who is being hit worst by the epidemic.

The latest CDC figures, released here before the AIDS conference, will be published next week in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

That journal usually has fine art reproduced on its cover, but this special AIDS edition has a blank cover to commemorate the artists who have died and the books, paintings, and performances that will not be created.

Mr. Karon's team of researchers concluded that about one in 300 Americans over age 13 is infected. Prevalence of the HIV virus is higher in men than women — one in 160 men versus compared to about one in 1,000 women, although the rate of increase is higher among women.

Among men and women alike, blacks and Hispanics had higher infection rates than whites. For men, it was one in 50 blacks, one in 100 Hispanics, and one in 250 whites.

For women, it was one in 160 blacks, one in 400 Hispanics, and one in 3,000 whites.

## AIDS situation explosive in India, say doctors

By Dev Varam  
Reuter

BOMBAY — Meena, a young widow, who tested HIV positive a year ago, has suffered so much she is no longer scared of AIDS.

"My husband and two children have died after they tested HIV positive," Meena, told Reuters this week. "I have lived through so much tragedy I'm not scared any more."

Her voice was resolute and her attitude almost defiant.

Meena is among the estimated 200,000 HIV positive cases reported in Bombay, India's bustling commercial capital of 13 mil-

lion people. "I find the situation quite explosive," said I.S. Gilada, a doctor at the forefront of India's campaign against AIDS since 1985, when the first case was reported in the country.

Dr. Gilada's Indian Health Organisation (IHO), a voluntary agency, has been working in Bombay's red-light district, housing 70,000 prostitutes.

"Nearly 65 per cent of these have tested HIV positive," said Dr. Gilada, who estimated the total number of HIV positive cases in India at an alarming four million.

"There is no single coun-

try where there are so many HIV cases. India is second to one (China) in population and second to none in HIV," Dr. Gilada said.

"This figure could inflate to 15-20 million by the turn of the century if no serious efforts are made to prevent the spread of AIDS," he said. How to curb the disease is among issues discussed at the 11th International Conference on AIDS in Vancouver.

In the last 10 years, the attitude of Indian officials towards the existence of AIDS has drastically changed — from disbelief and denial in 1985 to an awareness bordering on

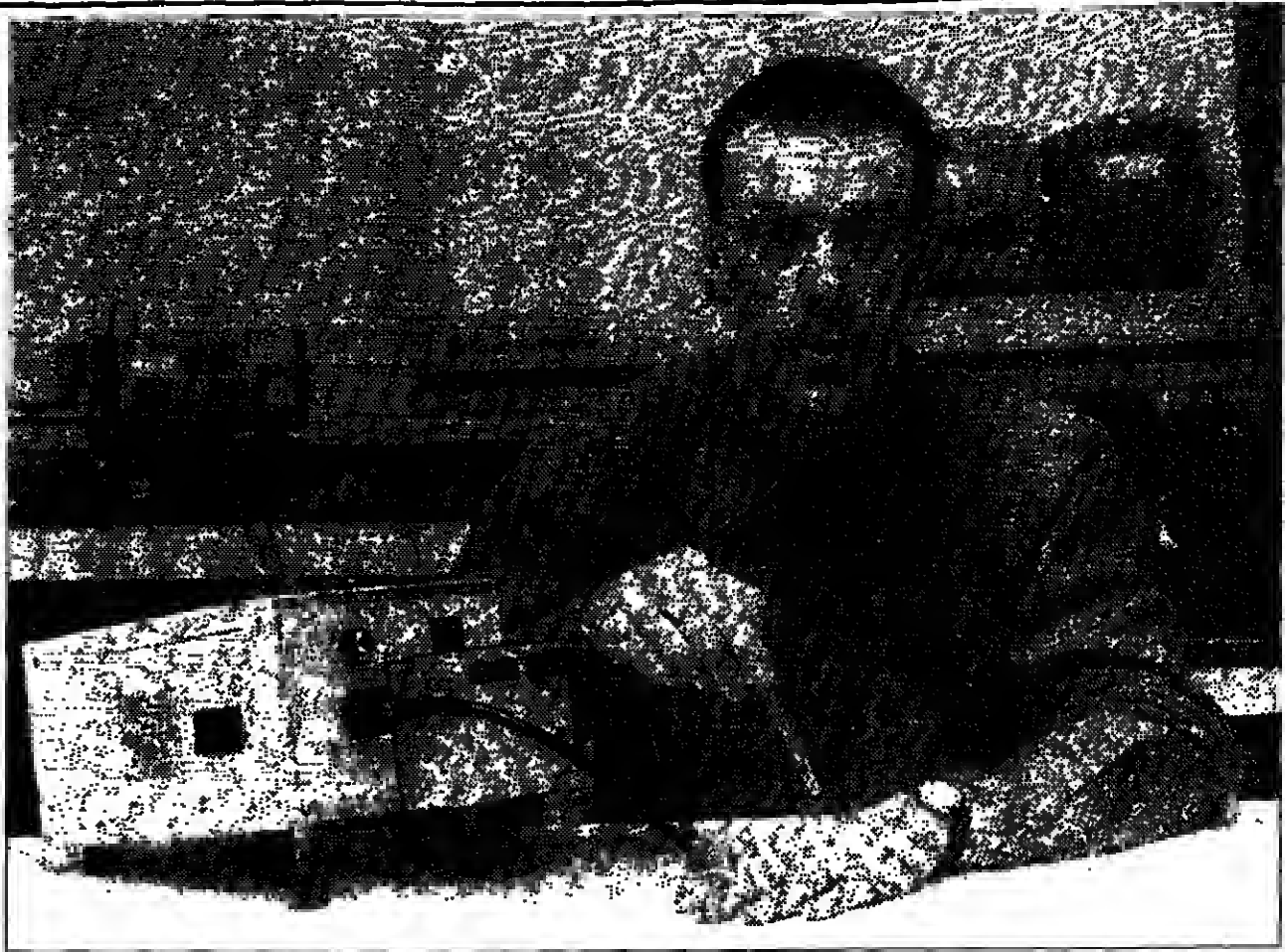
panic now.

Officials said India's western state of Maharashtra and its capital Bombay accounted for a large proportion of the total number of AIDS cases reported in India.

"It's a fairly serious problem. We are treating it as a priority," said Subhash Salunke, the state health director.

Mr. Salunke said the state was focussing on educating certain target-groups such as students, and sex workers about the dangers of AIDS.

"We have already covered 300,000 students in Bombay alone," he said.



Dr. Colin Whitehurst demonstrates the Paterson Lamp

## 'Lamp that thinks it's a laser' treats cancer

By John Newell

BRITISH SCIENTISTS have invented what they are calling "the lamp that thinks it's a laser," a device the size of a household toaster that kills cancer cells using photodynamic therapy like a laser, but at one-twentieth the cost. The lamp treatment has already been successfully used to treat more than 150 cases of skin cancer and there are now plans to try it against breast, prostate and bowel cancers. Meanwhile, there are plans to manufacture the lamp on a large scale so the potential benefits of photodynamic therapy can be made available to millions of people around the world.

Photodynamic therapy (PDT) is not a new idea. But it has taken five years' work by Dr. Colin Whitehurst of the Paterson Cancer Research Institute in Manchester to find a way to make PDT widely available. Dr. Whitehurst says: "This lamp treatment is part of a two-pronged attack on cancer. A light-sensitive cream or paste is applied to the cancer and is absorbed by it. Then a light source producing light of special qualities, my lamp, is used to irradiate the cancer that has been treated with the cream. And within a few weeks the cancer has gone."

Two or three different chemicals have been discovered that are readily absorbed by living cells and are harmless until intense light is shone on them. Then they break down and release deadly cell-killing poisons such as free oxygen radicals which are so reactive that they react with, and break down, vital structures in the cells, tearing them to pieces and destroying the cells. Among the photoactivated chemicals are those which are to some extent selectively absorbed by cancer cells. Research has focused on finding ways to deliver these chemicals selectively to cancer cells and to concentrate light upon them so to kill the cancer cells without damaging normal cells.

### Big future

Recent successes have encouraged doctors to believe that PDT could have a big future in cancer therapy. But the relatively high cost of the lasers that have been needed to deliver intense light at the right wavelength has held back development of the treatment. The lamp invented by Colin Whitehurst can make treatment much cheaper. The Paterson Lamp, no bigger than a household toaster, produces intense light at the right wavelength from an electric arc, a current jumping across a gap. The light is focused by

lenses and directed by flexible fibre optics to the cancer awaiting treatment.

Colin Whitehurst explains: "The light, which has to be tuned to a specific wavelength, which is critical, kills the cancer cells but does not harm the normal cells surrounding them. This allows the body to regenerate healthy tissue to fill the gap that was once occupied by the tumour. So at the end of the treatment there's no scarring, no ulceration, you'd never know the cancer had been there in the first place."

So far the lamp has been used in PDT in hospitals in Leeds and Glasgow to treat more than 150 patients, including some affected by the scarring skin disease called Bowen's disease as well as two of the most common forms of skin cancer. Like laser-based PDT, it is not effective against melanoma, the most deadly form of skin cancer.

"Results from those first two or three trials (says Dr. Whitehurst) have been very promising, the doctors are well pleased with the results and the ease of operation. After one treatment, twelve months later more than 90 per cent of had been eliminated, and because unlike conventional cancer chemotherapy, the cancers do not build up resistance to the treatment, tumours that were not killed can be treated with the same effectiveness as with the first treatment. So there is no excuse for failing to destroy these cancers."

### Undeniably exciting

These results are undeniably exciting. Colin Whitehurst says doctors at Glasgow's Western Infirmary where the treatment was first tested are now planning to widen the scope for it.

"We are planning further trials against breast, ovarian, gut and bowel cancers and against some non-cancer diseases such as the skin disease psoriasis. That is in the pipeline now. The use of PDT has been held back by the cost of the lasers required, around £100,000 apiece plus expensive servicing. My light source costs about one-twentieth of that, and should allow a lot more people to benefit."

The lamp has been patented and medical equipment companies are now negotiating to manufacture it on a large scale for use in hospitals worldwide. Dr. Gordon McVie, director-general of the U.K. Cancer Research Campaign who supported the development of the Paterson Lamp, says the lamp should be in production by the end of the year — LPS Feature.

## U.K. doctors report breast cancer breakthrough

LONDON (R) — British doctors said Tuesday they had developed a new way of treating breast cancer, which could improve survival rates for victims and in some cases might avoid the need for surgery.

Doctors from the Royal Marsden Hospital and the Institute of Cancer Research said in a statement they had shown for the first time that chemother-

apy drugs cause cancer cells to self-destruct.

The treatment centres on tailoring drugs to each individual and administering them before surgery.

But the use of such drugs needs to be carefully monitored to ensure that the correct drugs are being used and to avoid causing the patient unnecessary suffering.

The doctors used a very fine needle to remove cells from the tumour before and after drugs were administered to determine the rate at which the cells were self-destructing.

"Doctors are hoping that by measuring the rate at which the cells self-destruct they will be able to determine whether the most appropriate drugs

are being used or not," the statement said.

"It is early days yet, but we have already seen that treating with drugs can shrink the tumour or even cause it to disappear," said Dr. Paul Ellis.

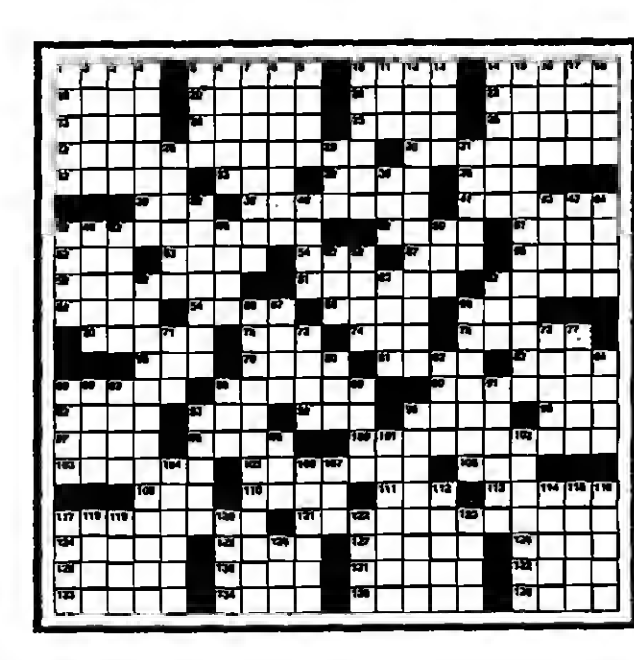
Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women, killing about 500,000 each year worldwide.

## WEEKEND CROSSWORD

MIXED BREEDS  
By Alan Olschewsky

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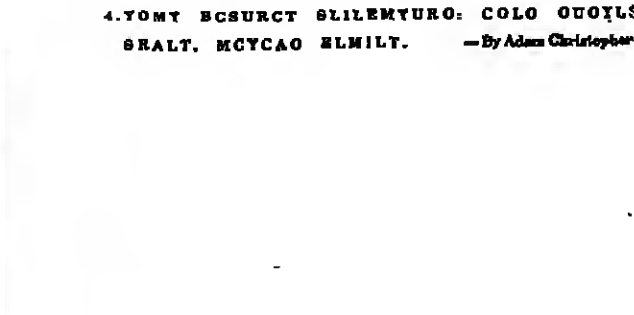
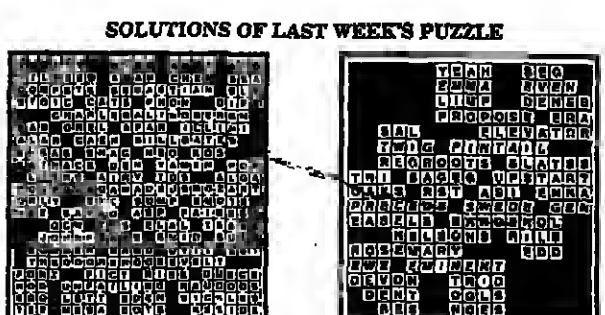


Diagramless, 19x19  
By Harold B. Conzette

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  - 3 Musical instrument
  - 4 An owl
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- Diagramless, 19x19  
By Harold B. Conzette



### ANSWERS

#### BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

(5) Sheep's wool.

\*\*\*\*

(1) A shed or protective roof for soldiers.

(2) A tench is a European fresh-water fish of the carp family, olive green with a golden sheen, inhabiting muddy waters and hibernating in mud on the bottom.

(3) The best known were those...

- at Moscow (1812);
- the Houses of Parliament (1834);
- Tonley Street, London (1861);
- Paris during the Commune (1871);
- Hamburg (1842);
- San Francisco (1851);
- Chicago (1871), the greatest fire of the century;
- Portland, Maine (1800); and
- St. John, New Brunswick (1825 & 1877).

(4) It was a form of thumb-screw used for torture.

(A) i. Sex. (Concupiscence is sexual appetite)  
ii. Reverse. (A palimpsest is a manuscript the original writing in which has been erased so that it can be used again; a palindrome is a word or phrase which reads the same even when it is reversed, e.g. OTTO)

(B)

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7



# Turn TV off, throw it out, get online

By Ian Grayson

IT FLICKERS in the corner of living rooms throughout the world — informing, entertaining, instructing and comforting. Newspapers and magazines devote hundreds of pages to telling us what's on it, and people plan their daily schedules around it for fear of missing something. But, for the past 16 months, I have lived without it.

My television-free lifestyle has raised more than a few eyebrows amongst friends and colleagues. Reactions range from surprise and scepticism to doubt and pity. How can anyone not have a television? That's ridiculous! How do you know what's going on? What do you do in the evenings? You're weird!

Their opinions change little when told that the television has been replaced with a PC and a connection to the Internet. Instead of evenings watching The Bill solve yet another crime or chucking at Angus Deayton as he smoothly delivers one more double entendre, I've been wandering through Web sites and communicating with people around the planet.

But why such a drastic step? As with many things in life, the decision to ditch the box was taken on the spur of the moment. In January 1995 the little brown envelope containing the television licence bill dropped through the letterbox. I was hemoaning the fact that I didn't believe there was £90-odd worth of television worth watching in a year when the fateful words were uttered by

my partner: "Well, why don't we get rid of it then?"

The sentence hung in the air as I grappled with the concept of a TV-free household. "Get rid of it? Mmm, interesting idea," I replied. I was in a corner as it had been me doing the complaining, so I pondered all the things that could fill the empty hours about to be created in my life. I had been reading a bit about the Internet and how it was destined to become the information medium of the future. Perhaps now was the time to try it out.

"OK," I said. "Why don't we replace the TV with an Internet connection?" It has to be said my partner was a little more sceptical about joining the growing online world, but my enthusiastic description finally convinced her. So it was decided — out with the TV and remote and in with the PC and modem.

I don't deny that the first few weeks were tough. I'd find myself reading through the television guide on the way home from work, just to see what I was missing. I'd loiter in the coffee room listening in on conversations about a particularly gripping episode of the X Files. But, gradually, the pain of not having television subsided.

At the same time, my enjoyment of the Internet was increasing. From a knowledge base of almost zero I soon was taking my first tentative steps. After the initial frustrations of configuring the software to talk to the modem, the first couple of weeks were spent exploring sites I'd read about in papers and magazines. Periods of silence and quiet tapping

were interspersed with: "Wow, I've got through to the White House," and "Hey, did you know showers are forecast for Istanbul today?"

Occasionally my partner would stand behind me as I toured the globe, initially showing interest but soon wandering off to pick up a book. "I don't think TV's got a lot to worry about," she said. But my interest was growing — I was determined to prove her wrong.

The beauty of the Internet is that it provides access to information on any subject imaginable. But this diversity can also be a disadvantage. Where do you start? How do you find what's interesting to you? As someone once commented, it's a little like trying to take a drink from a fire hydrant. Then, in about week three, I discovered the power of search engines. Television faded further from my memory.

The concept behind search engines is simple — enter a subject, name or key words and the engine will search the Internet for references, providing you with a list of possible sites to explore. Armed with this sort of help, the mass of information suddenly seems more ordered and you are able to select what you want with ease — the fire hydrant has been replaced by a drinking fountain.

Now nights could be spent exploring any subject that took my fancy. If I had a thirst for news, wire services such as Reuters and Press Association offered stories and photographs from around the world, as did a wide selection of

magazines. If it was entertainment, I soon found a long list of sites offering everything from games to online tours of virtual environments. Even TV's diet of advertising could be replaced by visiting some of the more Web-conscious consumer goods companies.

However, my partner remained unconvinced. The slow speed of the Web, particularly when downloading pages laden with graphics, made her eyes glaze over. It was then that I discovered forums.

Forums are areas set up on the Internet to enable people with similar interests to share ideas, experiences and knowledge. Some allow the posting of messages which then form an ongoing conversation. Others allow members to "chat" in real time. My partner was planning a diving holiday with a friend, so I mentioned there was a Scuba forum that might be worth a look. Unconvinced, she entered the forum and joined a live chat room. Two hours later she was still there, deep in conversation with two Germans and an Italian about the best dive spots on the Great Barrier Reef. "You know, this Internet thing is not so bad," she declared.

Our household has now been 16 months sans television, and I can honestly say that I don't miss it at all. I can't join conversations about the latest rerun of Absolutely Fabulous, the entire trial of OJ Simpson passed me by, and my lack of knowledge of any soap opera you care to mention almost makes me a social outcast. But I don't



Ian Grayson in his TV-free home

care. The online world isn't perfect it's sometimes slow and often frustrating,

but, given time and a little creativity, it can be infinitely more satisfying than

television could ever hope to be. My TV set's staying at the back of the closet.

The Independent

## Monks' blend percolates U.S. coffee market

By Jeanne Sather  
Reuters

VASHON, Washington — The Pacific northwest of the United States, home to coffee-bar chain Starbucks and innumerable small cafes, espresso stands and gourmet roasters, now boasts the country's only coffee-selling religious order.

The tiny all-merciful saviour Russian Ortho-

dox monastery on bucolic Vashon Island, a 30-minute ferry ride from Seattle, sells four blends, including Abbot's Choice and Byzantium, a finely ground, Greek-style coffee.

Business has been booming since stories about the monks' coffee began appearing in newspapers several months ago.

"Sales went up 800 per

cent," said Father Paul, one of two monks living in the former farmhouse near the southern tip of the island that serves as the order's monastery.

Religious orders have a history of producing fine food and drink, from beer and cheese in Europe to fudge and fruitcake in Oregon, but the Vashon Island monks are believed to be the only ones in the United States taking advantage of the gourmet coffee craze.

With sales of less than 10,000 lb (4,500 kg) a year at about \$11 a pound (\$22 a kg), monastery

blend coffees is unlikely to challenge Starbucks in the near future.

Father Tryphon, superior of the monastery, said he hoped proceeds would allow the order to complete a new monastery on land donated by actor John Ratzenberger, formerly of the TV comedy show "Cheers".

So far, a small wooden chapel has been built and foundations have been poured for a bookstore, woodworking shop, library, dining hall, temple and four monks' cabins.

Father Tryphon, a striking figure with long grey

beard and black robes, said he did not know when it might be completed.

"We have no expectations," said Father Tryphon, who learned to appreciate coffee during long hours in the coffee houses of Berkeley while he studied for degrees in English literature and psychology at the University of California.

"It all depends on how fast we sell coffee."

The monks do not actually roast the coffee but obtain it under contract from Caffe Appassionato Inc., a small Seattle-based chain with 17 coffee shops

of its own. The beans are packed in distinctive half-pound (250-gramme) gold bags showing a monk sipping a cup of coffee and distributed mostly by mail-order direct from the monastery.

The monks will also take telephone orders, but only between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

"We don't allow our coffee company to rule our lives," said Father Tryphon.

Coffee is the most successful of the monk's

fund-raising efforts, but they also sell religious books, produce icons and make and sell rosaries.

They have sold plants at an open-air market on Vashon Island, where residents have made them feel welcome from the beginning, often leaving gifts of flowers, eggs and groceries on the front porch of the monastery.

If the coffee sales continue to be successful, the venture, which has the blessing of the monastery's bishop in San

Francisco, will allow the community to grow to about 12 monks.

Orthodox communities are required to be self-supporting and Father Tryphon adds that it is important for them to have employment.

They have been approached by venture capitalists interested in putting money into the tiny coffee business and by others interested in buying it outright.

But monastery blend coffees is not for sale.

### Students protest fee hike

(Continued from page 1) the students interests and their desire to pursue their higher studies. It alleges that the decision was taken merely to meet the financial difficulties facing the educational institutions for which the students are not responsible in any way."

In their memorandum the protesters vowed "to stand firm in the face of the CHE's decision and to do all that in our power within the law to abrogate it."

The memorandum demanded that the government support the universities without levying extra charges from the students. The memorandum also demanded that the government refrain from further increases of education fees and hold to account those responsible

for financial and administrative corruption in government institutions.

During its regular session Friday the House endorsed a draft amendment to the penal code in a manner that would impose stricter penalties on people issuing bouncing cheques. Under the new amendments the maximum penalty for issuing faulty cheques will be a two-year imprisonment, double the previous penalty, and the fine will rise to JD200 from JD150. Minimum penalty will be a three-month imprisonment and a JD50 fine.

The House also endorsed a civil status law after the prime minister pledged to submit to the House new amendment to the law after a thorough debate among all the concerned parties.

### Investigators close to cause of crash

(Continued from page 1)

close to the source of the explosion," said the investigator. Others in the probe said that they were looking into the possibility that the bomb was in a passenger's bag, in a food cart or in a nearby bathroom.

Residue removed from the landing gear has been sent to the FBI's main laboratory in Washington to look for evidence of explosives.

As of early Wednesday, 182 bodies had been recovered from the wreck and 171 identified.

A cargo door was recovered late Tuesday far from other bits of wreckage, indicating its being blown off.

The aircraft then broke in two, with the nose headed straight into the water and the rear of the aircraft, propelled by the engines, continuing to fly until it burst into flames.

The investigation should get a boost now that the USS Grapple is moored above the most important bits of wreckage, and will be able to aid in the salvage effort.



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Haihem Al Muhtaseb	AAAA	UMIST	Electrical & Electronic Engineering
Bedra Sharif	AAAB	UMIST	Biochemistry
Shaher Al Araj	AAAB	UMIST	Manufacturing System Engineering
Ziad Naghug	AABC	UMIST	Manufacturing System Engineering
Bari Ameer Pishdadi	AABC	University of Leeds	Management Studies
Sahar Al-Tebawi	ABBB	Liverpool John Moores	Pharmacy
Eman Bani Mohammad	ABBC	UMIST	Optometry
Yasmeen Assaf	ABBC	University of Manchester	Sociology
Mohammed Al Shreda	ABBD	UMIST	Electrical & Electronic Engineering
Nader Moustafa	CCCD	University of Liverpool	Medical Electronics
Mahmoud Nofal	BDDD	University of Leeds	Mechanical Engineering

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# Reliance on Mideast oil seen reviving OPEC power

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — East Asia will become more dependent on Middle East oil supplies as wells run dry in the region, giving OPEC renewed power to control prices, Malaysia's Prime Minister Mahathir Muhammad said Tuesday.

Opening the Asia oil and gas conference in Kuala Lumpur, Mr. Mahathir said an imbalance between increasing consumption in East Asia's booming economies and dwindling production "should be of concern to the region."

"The decline in the regional crude availability will result in the region being more dependent on imports of Middle Eastern crudes, whose reserves are

estimated to last about 100 years at their current rate of production," he added.

"To consuming countries, this high dependence on the Middle East crudes may result in OPEC again exercising control over prices," Mr. Mahathir said.

No country in East Asia will be independent of outside oil supplies for long. "Even Malaysia, which presently exports half of its oil and gas production, may become an oil importing country fairly soon," he said.

Malaysia has said it expects its crude oil production to drop to 600,000 barrels per day (bpd) by the year 2000 from 664,000 bpd in 1995. The country limits the number of new

oilfields which can be brought onstream each year in order to conserve its reserves.

The regional supply/demand imbalance may further be aggravated by an increasing demand for environmentally-friendly fuels as a new environmental awareness takes root in Asia, Mr. Mahathir said.

"New environmental standards are being rapidly proposed and implemented, not only in the richer countries of Asia, but also in many of the region's developing nations," he indicated.

Lead is being phased out of the gasoline mix, diesel and fuel oil specifications are being tightened to con-

trol sulphur content and efforts are under way to cut the aromatic content of jet fuel, Mr. Mahathir said.

Nuclear power generation "has now gone into disrepute and few new plants are being built in the region, thus putting even greater pressure on oil and gas for power generation," he said.

Natural gas is one answer to declining crude production, with regional reserves amounting to 328.5 trillion cubic feet.

But bringing natural gas to the market requires enormous infrastructural investments. "To achieve economies of scale, the projects would have to be reasonably large and the markets assured."

Mr. Mahathir also called for more research on using energy more efficiently and identifying new and renewable resources.

"If we can imagine all the Asian countries having the per capita income of Western countries, the consumption of petroleum would probably dry up all the oil wells of the world in record time," the prime minister said.

Harnessing renewable energy resources, particularly hydro-electric power, "should be encouraged and subsidised by the developed western nations, in the interest of conserving exhaustible fossil fuel for them to share in the future," Mr. Mahathir said.

# Bahrain tries to hire more nationals without discouraging business

MANAMA (AFP) — Bahrain, the first Arab Gulf country to see its oil revenues dry up, is trying to meet the challenge of finding work for its nationals without undermining business confidence.

The authorities have never recognised a link between unemployment and the anti-government unrest which has led to more than 20 deaths in 20 months, but they have launched an ambitious programme of "Bahrainisation."

The programme has hitherto many businessmen who have been used to hiring foreign labour.

"We had a situation where the problem of unemployment was not properly addressed or even recognised when I took over" in June 1995, Labour Minister Abdul Nahi Shuala said.

A total of 4,409 people were unemployed in mid-1995, but the figure dropped to 3,344 in December, or a rate of 1.4 per cent, but it has probably climbed back again this summer as school

leavers seek jobs, he said.

Mr. Shuala was surprised at the low unemployment rate, saying he believed it was higher before he entered government.

But in Shiite Muslim areas, where unrest has been strongest, "each family has at least one unemployed person," he said.

Such a situation has prodded officials into finding more jobs for nationals in Bahrain, where 135,000 foreigners work, according to official figures.

Bahrainis held 30 per cent of the jobs in the private sector at the end of 1995 and the programme aims to increase the number by five per cent a year until the year 2000, officials said.

By 2020, the government hopes to create still more jobs with the construction of a new port and industrial zone, an extension of Manama Airport, and a 260-megawatt power plant linked to a seawater desalination plant.

Although Bahrainis are generally well-educated, many of them lack motivation, a sense of responsibility and the work ethos,

the minister said.

The government is therefore devoting more resources to job training and on Saturday inaugurated an employment services office that aims to match job seekers and private companies.

"From now on, nobody will move and go to a job without training," Mr. Shuala said.

At the same time, the government is raising the cost of foreign labour, by doubling the cost of a work permit. It has also imposed a three per cent training tax on the manufacturing and hotel industry.

But while large companies can assume responsibility for employing Bahrainis, small and medium firms are complaining.

"Bahrainisation has played a role in the shrinking of the economy," an Indian businessman said.

Bahrain does not levy taxes on companies but "we end up paying so many bills, fees and levies that we'd be better off paying taxes," he said.

The increase in fees, combined with anti-gov-

ernment unrest which has hurt retail trade and tourism, has undermined confidence in the economy and spurred an outflow of capital, financial analysts said.

Banks have also noticed an increase in the opening of accounts for offshore firms in a bid "to avoid de facto taxation," they said.

Shiites in the Sunni Muslim-ruled archipelago complain of job discrimination and say this is a major reason for the protests which have shaken Bahrain since December 1994.

They also demand a restoration of the parliament suspended in 1975.

# Israel, WB, Palestinians to speed up industrial parks

TELAVIV (R) — The World Bank, Israel and the Palestinians will cooperate to speed up creation of the first industrial park on the border between Israel and the Palestinian self-ruled areas, Israel's ministry of commerce and industry said Tuesday.

Commerce and Industry Minister Natan Sharansky and World Bank President James Wolfensohn agreed at a meeting in Washington Monday that the three sides would hold discussions over three months to prepare for setting up a park that, if successful, would serve as a model for further such facilities.

## HOROSCOPE FORECAST FOR FRIDAY AUGUST 2, 1996

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) This is a good day today to see many people as you can especially those who are involved in the same career activities as you. A communication can test your ability, however, you can handle it well and be successful.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 21) Handle financial affairs one after the other today and you can get good results. The evening is perfect for fun with your loved ones so do as many activities as possible and you can have a pleasant time.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) If your mate is disturbed about some situation today, be more willing to compromise and discuss whatever is bothering him or her. Come to an understanding later this evening with some bigwig concerning a new project.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Remain poised when someone you have just recently met wants to involve you in some unpleasant situation, which you have no desire to participate in at this time. Later this evening will be good for going out on the town.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) It may be difficult to attain personal desires today, however, persevere and you can make any situation work to your advantage. Study that group affair which could be very useful to you at this time with some assistance.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Don't change the plans you had made in the business world today to get rid of the pressure you may be under. Later this evening you can spend some time with close friends out on the town and have a good time with them.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) A new contact could give you ideas today which are not profitable to you so you should take them with a grain of salt. Be polite and listen to some knowledgeable individual later this evening concerning some project and do nothing.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Your mate may want to do something unusual today which is not wise so be soothing and prevent this. Later this evening you should consult with someone in authority about a new project and get his or her approval to proceed.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) A fellow associate may not seem to have any set purpose today, so be patient for things can only get better. Be yourself later this evening and you can discover the answers for some difficult situation which is present.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to Jan. 20) Make sure you finish the career activities which are doing today and you can gain some valuable recognition from some bigwig. A fellow associate could start some difficulty, so pay no heed to whatever occurs.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Get into activities which have proven satisfactory in previous days and you can be quite successful. Try not to be so much of a perfectionist and just go with the flow or you can find yourself spending a lot of time on unnecessary steps.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) It may be a good idea today to get away from home for awhile and allow your loved ones to have some time by themselves. Wear a smile this evening even if you have to pin it on especially around your close friends.

Birthstone of August: Peridot — Golden Quartz

## HOROSCOPE FORECAST FOR THURSDAY AUGUST 1, 1996

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Business matters are slow in the morning today so try to keep busy on whatever your career activities happen to be. Study bills closely before paying them since you could be paying for something you truly do not owe.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 21) You have a plan of personal nature which presents a difficulty today, so you should handle the situation in a logical manner. Use care in handling money matters, and you will do well in the days ahead if you are resourceful.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Tackle a difficult predicament today, you will solve it quickly. You have a chance to push personal affairs later this evening whereby you can achieve some success in the days ahead with any assistance which is provided.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Steer clear of a disturbed friend today since you cannot be of assistance in a manner in which you truly want to be. Try to understand your mate and be of assistance for any difficulties which he or she may have in the days ahead.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Make sure the facts and figures are correct in some new project if you want to gain outside support from some knowledgeable person. You should avoid strange acquaintances this evening and have some fun with close friends.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) You may find it difficult to get a new plan to work properly today, so you should seek the advice of a bigwig who can be of great assistance. You should avoid a scheming person who disturbs your day and can make things difficult.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Don't be hard on someone you owe money today or you could make the situation worse. Do more for your mate later this evening so show your appreciation of this person. Stay at home with your loved ones.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Study well how best to deal with a fellow associate today on some project which you are involved in at this time. Forget business tonight after a successful day of it and spend some quality time with your loved ones.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Get right to the career activities today which you have promised to perform and complete any tasks which are given to you. Take things in stride later this evening and you will be able to improve your health for the days ahead.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to Jan. 20) You may find it difficult to emphasise your creative side today, so wait for a better opportunity. Encourage your mate in whatever are his or her career activities, thereby you can be happy with your loved ones at this time.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) This is not a good day to handle difficulties at home with your loved ones, so put them off to a more appropriate period. Don't spend too much money for evening entertainment tonight or you could find yourself low on funds.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Be steadfast at your career activities during the daytime today and you can have great success. Guard against nervousness if a disagree ensues later this evening between you and your mate so that there will be great harmony.

Birthstone of August: Peridot — Golden Quartz

## THE Daily Crossword by Janet R. Bender

ACROSS

- 1 NaCl
- 5 Mint or basil
- 9 Shire of Rocky films
- 14 Was aware of
- 15 Declare
- 16 Due
- 17 Alcohol burner
- 18 Critic Siskel
- 19 Knight's weapon
- 20 Center from St. Louis
- 23 Steven of "Under Siege"
- 24 Small case
- 25 Pouchlike part
- 28 Designer Saint Laurent
- 30 Settle down snugly
- 32 Craze
- 35 Center from Philadelphia
- 38 He loved his Irish Rose
- 40 Also
- 41 Capital of Yemen
- 42 Center from New York City
- 47 Each
- 48 Regard
- 49 Social climber
- 51 Actress Susan
- 52 Lacking rigidity
- 55 Matador
- 59 Center from Pittsburgh
- 61 Harp on
- 64 Entry or exit
- 65 Happiness
- 66 In the midst of
- 67 Zenith
- 68 Lamarr of old films
- 69 Skater Torvill
- 70 Place for fools
- 71 Babab, e.g.

DOWN

- 1 Distorts
- 2 Pilasters
- 3 Late actress
- 4 Nasal
- 5 Tough bargainer
- 6 At any time
- 7 Actress Taylor
- 8 TV comedienne
- 9 "Lord of the Rings" author
- 10 On the road
- 11 Writer Yutang
- 12 Business abbr.
- 13 Roof old
- 21 Roof overhang
- 22 Pueblo dweller
- 25 Part of some shoes
- 26 Solo
- 27 Composer
- 29 Takes a chair
- 31 1960's campus org.
- 32 Well-known
- 33 Humiliate
- 34 Unwashed
- 36 Lettuce variety
- 37 Clark's partner
- 39 — out. (supplement)
- 43 Hedgepodge
- 44 Kuwait ruler
- 45 Came in
- 46 Elbow —
- 50 Intelligent
- 53 King of Greek legend
- 54 Dog
- 56 Sniggler
- 57 — la Paix
- 58 Flayed flower
- 59 Neighbor of N. Dak.
- 60 Capital of Togo
- 61 British rule in India
- 62 Actress
- 63 Word after bat or bus

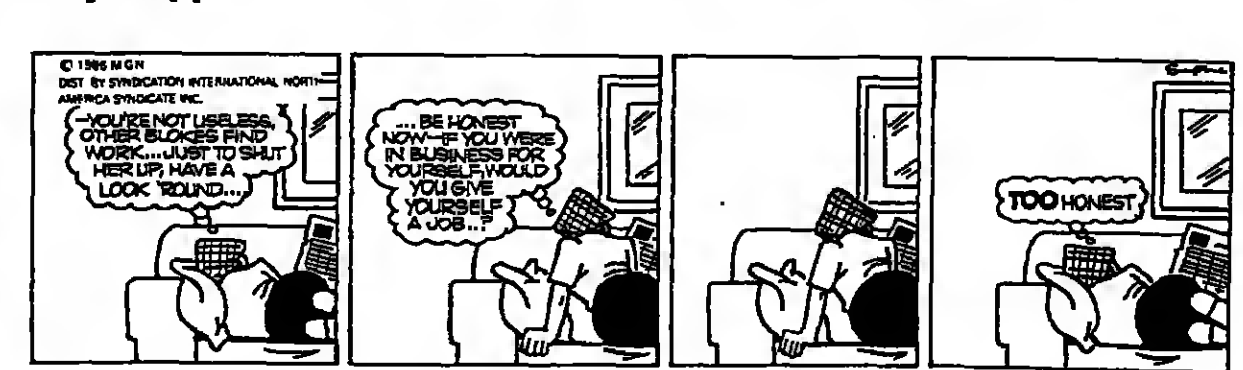
## THE BETTER HALF. By Glasbergen



## Peanuts



## Andy Capp



## Mutt'n'Geff



**Business**

**EB-A meeting**  
ET. but says

**DAJANI JEWELLERS**

**FOR RENT**  
1 bedroom apartment in... second floor...  
220 sq ft...  
3 bedrooms - A/Reta...  
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## Dream Team beat Brazil, Aussies top Croatia

ATLANTA (R) — The U.S. Dream Team defeated Oscar Schmidt's Brazilians 98-75 on Tuesday and Australia pulled off a dream comeback against tough Croatia to reach the semifinals of the Olympic basketball tournament.

Despite their attempts to introduce some razzle-dazzle into a contest that was never in doubt, the Americans were asked if they found the game a little boring.

"Boring? Boring's when you lose," said forward Grant Hill.

Schmidt, two games away from his Olympic farewell in his record fifth Games, is the all-time leading Olympic scorer, the scoring leader in this tournament and was the high scorer in the game with 26 points.

Hill, Scottie Pippen and Penny Hardaway all had turns guarding him.

"I'm very happy because that means respect. I'm very happy they played hard against me," said Schmidt.

"Offensively, I think he's a wily veteran that knows what he can get away with and has no conscience about shooting anytime," said Hardaway. "Defensively? He left that behind 10 years ago."

"He's been around, he knows the game, he knows the officials and he knows what he can and can't do and what he can get away with," said Hill. "That's why he's been so successful."

"He's the best shooter I've seen in a while," added Hill, whose Detroit Pistons team mate Allen Houston recently jumped to the New York Knicks. "He can come to Detroit if he wants to."

Schmidt, 38, will continue to play in the losers' bracket for two more games.

The United States next face Australia, who shocked Croatia 73-71 thanks to forward Tony Ronaldson's four-point play 34 seconds from the end.

Australia erased an eight-point second-half deficit and used an 11-0 run, with Ronaldson's three-pointer and free throw the tie-breaker.

"Boy, was I elated," said the 24-year-old forward, who scored 17 points.

Teammate Andrew Gaze, who scored a game-high 26 points, said: "Biggest win in Australian basketball history."

Vladan Alanovic scored 18 points including a three-pointer at the end of the final margin as the Croats, with three NBA players including Toni Kukoc of the champion Chicago Bulls, were knocked out of medal contention.

On the other side of the quarter-finals, Yugoslavia, like the United States 6-0 and still without any real test, demolished China 128-61 on Tuesday to set up a semifinal showdown with their long-time rivals Lithuania.

The Yugoslavs used all 12 players and had no starter play for more than half the game. Lithuania disposed of Greece 99-66 with surprising ease, holding their leading scorer Nikos Economou to just one point.

The Lithuania-Yugoslavia semifinal on Thursday pits familiar foes against one another. Yugoslavia won the European Championship last year in a close, bitterly fought final with Lithuania.

## 'Lewis promised place in relay'

ATLANTA (R) — pressure on the U.S. track coaches to select Carl Lewis for the 4x100 metres relay team increased on Tuesday when his manager said the nine times Olympic champion had been promised a place if he qualified for the 100 final at the U.S. trials.

Lewis finished eighth and last in the final at the trials but head U.S. track coach Erv Hunt said before the Olympics that he would not select him for the relay team.

On Tuesday, however, Santa Monica Track Club manager Joe Douglas said assistant U.S. manager Charlie Greene had told him Lewis would be selected for

the relay squad if he made the 100 final at the trials.

"They gave me a piece of paper which said Carl would be in the relay," Douglas said. Asked who had passed the paper, Douglas replied: "Charlie Greene."

Neither Hunt or Greene were available for comment.

On Monday night Lewis equalled Finnish runner Paavo Nurmi's Olympic record of nine athletics gold medals when he won his fourth consecutive long jump title.

Lewis told a news conference earlier he would love to have the opportunity to win a 10th Olympic gold

medal in front of an American audience.

"To be honest it's not my decision, it's not my choice," he said. "It's up to them. I think I am running as well as anybody. I have run very well."

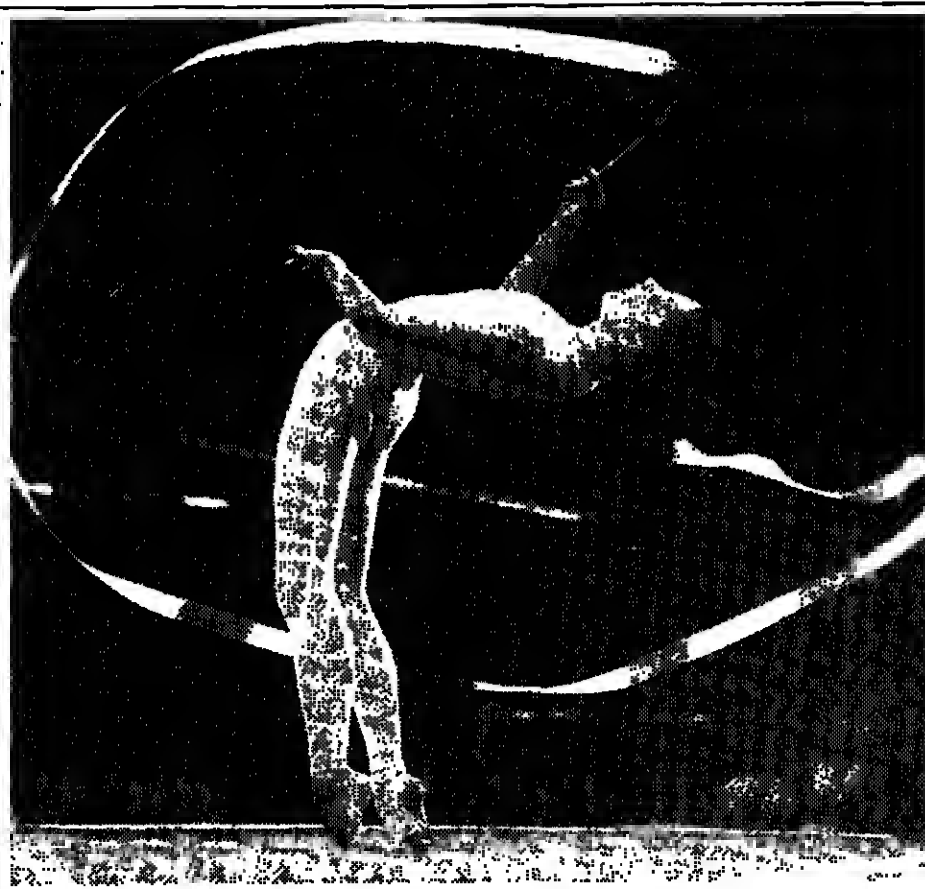
He then added without elaborating: "I am not putting any pressure on them. The pressure is coming from someone else."

Lewis said he disagreed with the decision to select the first four from the American trials.

"The objective is to put the four best people on the track," he said. "I ran well in the trials and ran in the final."



Russia's Vera Ilyina dives during the preliminary competition at the Georgia Tech Aquatic Center. She currently leads all divers in the preliminary round (Reuters photo)



Ukraine's Elena Vitrichenko performs her rhythmic routine during an exhibition of gymnastics Olympic champions. Rhythmic gymnasts performed alongside acrobats, tumblers, medalists and trampolinists during the festive gala (Reuters photo)

## Gunnell may be forced to quit

ATLANTA (R) — Britain's former world champion Sally Gunnell has some difficult decisions to make about her sporting future after an injury destroyed the defence of her Olympic 400 metres hurdles title at the Atlanta Games.

Gunnell was forced to pull up in Monday's semifinals because of an injured foot and will have the injury examined closely at an Atlanta hospital on Wednesday evening. Her future in the sport could be in doubt.

"She will have a scan and see then what the damage is," British team spokesman Tony Ward said on Tuesday. "But she is not going to make any decisions (about her future) in the heat of the Olympics. She will wait until she gets home."

Gunnell, who turned 30 on Monday, has been plagued by injury over the last two seasons.

She was unable to defend her title at last year's World Championships in the Swedish city of Gothenburg because of an operation on an injured heel.

At the beginning of July she also had to pull up in an important race in the Swiss

town of Lausanne because of an inflamed Achilles tendon.

After showing signs of her top form on Monday she had to be helped from the track again.

"I felt the foot during the warm-ups. It was sore but I tried to ignore it," Gunnell said. "I hit the fourth hurdle and that knocked me off balance almost into the next lane."

"I then rotated on the foot and that is what caused the problem. There is no way I could have gone on."

Gunnell is determined that she will not go through another operation again. If faced with the prospect of surgery, the Englishwoman is almost certain to call it a day and concentrate on her business and family life.

But if the injury is not serious, Gunnell could decide to make a final bid for another title at next year's world championships.

"She won't have another operation. If she requires another operation that'll be it," Ward said. "But I think she might like to leave on a higher note. Maybe at the World Championships in Athens."

### ITV's Olympic coverage on Channel 2 for Thursday

Athletics	15:50 - 20:00
Badminton (ladies singles finals)	16:55 - 17:20
Canoeing	15:55 - 18:10
Rhythmic gymnastics	16:55 - 19:50
Badminton (men's final)	17:25 - 18:50
Badminton (mixed doubles)	18:55 - 20:50
Summary A (Channel 1)	20:30 - 21:30
Athletics (four finals)	20:50 - 05:25
Archery (men's final)	20:55 - 24:00
Equestrian (jumping team finals)	20:55 - 02:15
Rhythmic gymnastics	21:55 - 23:40
Table tennis (men's final)	00:25 - 01:45
Summary B (Channel 1)	01:15 - 02:15
Field hockey (ladies final)	02:20 - 04:45
Boxing semifinals	02:55 - 05:25
Football (ladies final)	03:30 - 05:45
Diving (men's platform preliminary)	04:50 - 07:00
Summary C (Channel 1)	07:00 - 08:00

### ITV's Olympic coverage on Channel 2 for Friday

Athletics (men's walk)	14:20 - 19:30
Canoeing semifinals	16:00 - 18:15
Rhythmic gymnastics	16:55 - 19:50
Diving (men's platform semifinals)	18:25 - 20:00
Archery (ladies team final)	19:10 - 21:30
Tennis (ladies singles final)	19:55 - 22:15
Summary A (Channel 1)	20:30 - 21:30
Archery (men's team final)	21:40 - 23:50
Rhythmic gymnastics final	21:55 - 23:35
Tennis (men's doubles final)	22:25 - 01:10
Wrestling freestyle finals	22:25 - 01:55
Athletics five finals	23:55 - 01:45
Synchronized swimming (team finals)	01:15 - 02:15
Summary B (Channel 1)	01:50 - 05:20
Baseball final	02:20 - 04:45
Field hockey (men's final)	02:55 - 05:25
Boxing semifinals	04:55 - 07:00
Diving (men's platform final)	07:00 - 08:00
Summary C (Channel 1)	

### Olympics schedule for Thursday, August 1

**ARCHERY**  
Men's individual finals

**ATHLETICS**  
Men's decathlon, 110 hurdles  
Women's high jump, qualifying  
Men's decathlon, discus  
Women's long jump, qualifying  
Women's 800 wheelchair finals  
Men's 1,500 wheelchair finals  
Men's decathlon, discus  
Men's decathlon, pole vault  
Men's decathlon, javelin  
Women's 200, semifinals and finals  
Men's 200, semifinals and finals  
Women's 1,500 semifinals  
Men's decathlon, javelin  
Men's 1,500 semifinals  
Men's 400 hurdles, finals  
Men's 5,000 semifinals  
Men's decathlon, 1,500 (final)

**BADMINTON**  
Women's singles, gold medal match  
Men's singles, gold medal match  
Mixed doubles, gold medal match

**BASEBALL**  
4th to 1st place

**BASKETBALL**  
Men's classification and semifinals  
Women's classification

**BOXING**  
Light flyweight, bantamweight, lightweight, welterweight, middleweight, heavyweight semifinals

**DIVING**  
Men's platform prelims

**FIELD HOCKEY**  
Men and Women's 11th place to finals

**RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS**  
Individual prelims  
Group finals

**SOCCER**  
Women finals

**TABLE TENNIS**  
Women's singles finals  
Men's singles semifinals

**TEAM HANDBALL**  
Women's (7th place to semifinals)

**TENNIS**  
Women's singles semifinals  
Men's and Women's doubles semifinals

**VOLLEYBALL**  
Men's quarterfinals  
Women's 7th place to semifinals

**WRESTLING (FREESTYLE)**  
52kg, 62kg, 74kg, 90kg, 130kg prelims and classification

**YACHTING**  
Open Soling match races, 2nd round; Men's 470 and Women's 470 finals

### Schedule for Friday, August 2

**ARCHERY**  
Men's and Women's team, 1st round to finals

**ATHLETICS**  
Men's 50km race walk, final  
Men's 400 relay, 1st round and semifinals  
Men's javelin, qualifying  
Women's 400 relay, 1st round and semifinals  
Men's 1,600 relay, 1st round and semifinals  
Men's javelin, qualifying  
Men's pole vault, finals  
Women's shot put, finals  
Women's long jump, finals  
Men's 3,000 steeplechase, finals  
Women's 10,000, final

**BASEBALL**  
Men's finals

**BASKETBALL**  
Men's 11th-5th place games  
Women's semifinals

**BOXING**  
Flyweight, featherweight, light welterweight, light middleweight, light heavyweight, and super heavyweight semifinals

**CANOE-KAYAK SPRINT**  
500 semifinals men's kayak and canoe single and double, women's kayak single and double

**DIVING**  
Men's platform semifinals  
Men's platform finals

**FIELD HOCKEY**  
Men's 5th to gold medal

**RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS**  
Individual prelims  
Group finals

**SOCCER**  
Bronze medal match

**SYNCHRONIZED SWIMMING**  
Team, free routine

**TEAM HANDBALL**  
Men's 11th place to semifinal

**TENNIS**  
Women's singles gold and bronze medal  
Men's doubles gold medal match

**VOLLEYBALL**  
Men's 7th place to semifinals

**WRESTLING (FREESTYLE)**  
52kg, 62kg, 74kg, 90kg, 130kg classification and medal matches

<b>TO DAY AT</b> <b>PHILADELPHIA</b> TEL: 634144 Michael Douglass & Annette Bening ... in <b>The American President</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30	<b>PLAZA</b> TEL: 699236 <b>Adel Imam stars in Sleeping in Honey (Arabic)</b> Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 <b>Toy Story</b> 5:00 p.m.	<b>CONCORD</b> TEL: 677420 <b>CONCORD "1"</b> Jim Carrey & Jeff Daniels Dumb and Dumber Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 <b>CONCORD "2"</b> <b>BRAVEHEART</b> Shows: 8:00, 8:00, 9:00	<b>Amman Theatre &amp; Cinema</b> TEL: 618274 - 618275 Today presents Zawad Weld Awad theatre group in the play entitled <b>Five-Star Government</b> Starring comedians: <b>Mahmoud Saimeh &amp; Hussein Tubeishat</b> play starts 8:30 p.m.	<b>Nabul's Bushan's Theatre</b> TEL: 625155 <b>PRESENTS THE SATIRICAL COMEDY Arab Human Rights at 8:30 p.m.</b> For reservation please call 625155 - 640155
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FBI, who said that Richard Jewell was not a suspect, was not a subject, was not a target."